

**MUSC CON DNP Program**  
**Post-graduate certificate for the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse**  
**Practitioner (PMHNP) Track**

| <b>Year 1</b> |     | <b>Spring Semester</b>   |                |                 |
|---------------|-----|--|----------------|-----------------|
| NRDNP         | 868 | Neuroscience for APRN'S  | 2 sh           | (2,0,0)         |
| NRDNP         | 861 | Neuroscience of Psychotherapeutic Interventions and Psychopharmacology | 3 sh           | (3,0,0)         |
|               |     |  | 5              |                 |
| <b>Year 1</b> |     | <b>Summer Semester</b>   |                |                 |
| NRDNP         | 864 | Advanced Care Management 1   | 6 sh           | (0,2,4)         |
|               |     |  | 6              | 180             |
| <b>Year 1</b> |     | <b>Fall Semester</b>   |                |                 |
| NRDNP         | 865 | Advanced Care Management 2   | 6 sh           | (0,2,4)         |
|               |     |  | 6              | 180             |
| <b>Year 2</b> |     | <b>Spring Semester</b>   |                |                 |
| NRDNP         | 866 | Advanced Care Management 3   | 6 sh           | (0,2,4)         |
|               |     |  | 6              | 180             |
|               |     | Total Hours  | 23<br>didactic | 540<br>clinical |

sh=semester hour. Semester hour to clock hour ratio: Didactic, 1:1; seminar, 1:2; practicum, 1:3. 3(3, 0,0) = (3 sh didactic, 0 sh seminar, 0 sh practicum) = 3 sh total

Graduate students can elect to add Nurse Educator courses to include NURSM 615, NURSM 703, NURSM 713 and NRPHD 800.

Applicants must have an MSN or doctoral nursing degree (from an accredited college or university) as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN), licensed and certified as an APRN. \*Post-graduate PMHNP students are required to attend on-campus Learning Intensives 2, 3 & 4 that are part of the DNP program (occur during NRDNP 864, 865 & 866).

According to College Policy, MSN/DNP students must graduate within 1.5 years times the length of the program; therefore, the Post-MSN DNP PMHNP Certificate of study must be completed within 2.5 years from the date of initial enrollment. Courses in the DNP program are offered once per year; either fall, spring, or summer semesters. Any deviation from this plan may jeopardize program completion and must be approved by the Director of DNP Programs.

#### Admission Requirements:

Applicants eligible for admission to the Post-graduate PMHNP certificate online degree program Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) or Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. APRNs with an MSN or DNP degree and active license as an APRN with certification in population area are eligible to apply. \*If a practicing APRN does not have prescriptive privileges, they may be required to re-take NRDNP 842 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics in order to be eligible for prescribing authority upon licensure as a PMHNP. Prerequisite courses as part of the MSN or DNP APRN degree transcript must include advanced lifespan health assessment, advanced pharmacology, and advanced pathophysiology. Current employment as an APRN; does not have to be in behavioral health. Preferred cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for undergraduate and graduate coursework (official transcripts for ALL post-secondary school coursework are required). Evidence of at least 500 clinical hours in role and population in graduate plan of study. \*Applicants who attended a BSN or MSN program that issued pass/fail grades resulting in a 0.0 GPA will not be a competitive applicant. Unencumbered, active APRN license in state where practicums will be conducted. A copy of current APRN specialty certification must be submitted. Three references from professionals knowledgeable about the applicant's academic and nursing leadership potential (must use University forms that are available in the online application). Current CV or Résumé. Interview, if requested, by the Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee. GRE scores are not required.

Applicants ineligible for admission to the Post-MSN DNP online degree program

\*Post-MSN Nurse Educators are not eligible to apply for Post-MSN entry, but can apply for Post-BSN entry.

\*CRNA's are not eligible to apply for the Post-MSN DNP program, but can apply for Post-BSN entry.

International Applicants Due to the distance-education nature of this program, MUSC is unable to issue I-20 forms to allow students to obtain F-1 student visas. Only U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and those holding other valid U.S. visas will be accepted.

#### Clinical Experience:

A minimum of 500 clinical hours in lifespan psychiatric-mental health advanced nursing are required in order to be eligible to take the PMHNP lifespan certification examination, students can expect to complete 540 hours during the plan of study. ANCC certification examination test information is located here:

<https://www.nursingworld.org/our-certifications/psychiatric-mental-health-nurse-practitioner/>

Out-of-state students are responsible for contacting their state nursing board to verify any requirements that are needed in order to conduct clinicals as a student or apply for an APRN license in their state upon graduation from an online, out-of-state program. Also review state authorization information at this site:

<https://education.musc.edu/leadership/provost/reporting-units/institutional-effectiveness/state-authorization>

