

Frequently Asked Questions about the MSN Program

1. Can I transfer graduate credits from another university?

Students are allowed to transfer up to 1/3 the minimum number of credits required for the program. The time the course(s) was taken may affect the 5-year completion requirement for your MSN degree. For example, if you started a graduate program but never completed it three years ago, and now want to transfer credits from that program, then the five year time clock for completing your MSN at UNCG would begin at the time that you took the other courses you are asking to transfer to UNCG (three years ago). Finally, before a course can be approved for credit transfer, a copy of the syllabus, and any additionally requested information, must be submitted to the program director. This is to determine if the course is similar enough in nature that the student would not miss out on important information included in our program.

2. How do I apply for financial aid?

Students need to complete the FAFSA to apply for financial aid. The FAFSA needs to be completed annually <http://fafsa.ed.gov/>. Students would also need to complete the scholarship application each year. This application is found in the Spartan Scholarship System and is specific to the School of Nursing, <https://fia.uncg.edu/uncg-grants-and-scholarships/>

3. Can I go part time?

The program is designed for part time study. Full time status is 9 credit hours per semester and part time is 5 credit hours per semester. The MSN concentrations are designed so that students who enroll each fall progress through the program as a cohort, taking two courses (usually 6 credit hours) most semesters. Courses in the MSN program are only offered once a year. Students who opt to take only one course during any semester will still progress, but time to graduation may be delayed.

4. Do I have to come to campus?

Our MSN, MSN/MBA degrees and Post Baccalaureate Certificates (PBC) are 100% online. The application process, student advising, and access to the UNCG library are online. Therefore, there is no requirement to be on campus.

5. Do you require the GRE?

If you earned a GPA of 3.2 or greater from your accredited BSN program the GRE or MAT exam requirement is waived. For a GPA less than 3.2, the GRE or MAT is required.

6. How are clinicals conducted?

Clinical experiences are required in the MSN, PBC, and MSN/MBA programs. Students identify their own preceptors for clinicals, based on qualifications and guidelines established by the SON.

7. Can I apply for admission to the DNP program after completing my MSN?

The Post-Master's DNP program at UNCG is accredited for Advanced Practice RNs (APRN). Students who have completed the MSN Leadership and Management (Administration) degree are eligible to apply to the DNP Post-Master's program. MSN

Education graduates who are interested in pursuing the post-master's DNP program are encouraged to complete the PBC in Leadership and Management (Administration), which will make them eligible to continue for the Post-Master's DNP.

8. Can I enroll in a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (PBC) program if I have a MSN?

Yes, students with a MSN, DNP, PhD, as well as a BSN may enroll in a PBC program.

9. Do you accept out-of-state students?

There are several criteria that must be met for students outside of North Carolina to enroll in the MSN programs. Students must reside in, hold and agree to maintain a current unencumbered RN license from a Nurse Licensure Compact State for the duration of the program. The students must also reside in a state that is compatible with the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).

10. Why should I pursue a Master's degree nursing in leadership (administration) at UNCG?

Master of Nursing Leadership (Administration) degrees are quickly becoming the new standard for nurses who want to become leaders in the demanding and fast changing world of health care. UNCG's MSN in Nursing Leadership (Administration) prepares nurses to meet these demands through challenging course work and mentoring from clinical preceptors skilled in real-world leadership.

11. Will the clinical hours I earn in the MSN Leadership & Management program count toward the 1000 hours of clinical required for the DNP degree?

Yes, the 504 hours of clinical experience in the MSN Leadership & Management program fulfills half of the required clinical hours for any DNP program, whether at UNCG or any other accredited DNP program.

12. Why should I pursue a Master's degree in Nursing Education?

Students with an MSN in the Education concentration are prepared to teach nursing in academia, staff education, and patient education. Graduates from UNCG's MSN Education meet the criteria set forth by the North Carolina Board of Nursing to teach in North Carolina. Our MSN Education graduates are competent in facilitating learning, as well as learner development and socialization, in using assessment and evaluation strategies, curriculum design and program evaluation, can function as a change agent and leader, and in pursuing continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role. They also engage in the development of educational materials and programs, present and publish their work, and are competent in the educational environment.