



MICHIGAN NURSING
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Preparing Nursing's Leaders and Best

Table of Contents



4 Degrees

6 MSN or DNP

7-9 Specialties

10 Post-Master's DNP

11 Ph.D. in Nursing

12 DNP or Ph.D.

13 Research

14 Clinical Experiences

15 Certificates and Concentrations

16 Global Health

17 World-Class Faculty

18 Our Community

19 Our Campus



At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, we prepare nurses to lead. Our nationally ranked graduate programs equip you to advance your career and create meaningful change across health care.

Through five clinical specialties, our MSN and DNP programs deliver rigorous, hands-on preparation led by renowned faculty and supported by an unparalleled network of expert preceptors, clinical partners and global collaborators.

Ph.D. students join a research-intensive community tackling society's most pressing health challenges, mentored by faculty whose discoveries shape nursing science worldwide.

At Michigan, graduate nursing education is more than coursework—it's a bold community that dares to challenge the status quo and advances a more just, equitable, and effective health system.



“Choosing to pursue graduate studies in nursing is a profound commitment—to your own growth, your patients, and your profession. At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, we take that commitment seriously. We’re here to support, challenge, and inspire you every step of the way as you become the kind of leader and clinician health care really needs.”

Dr. Lisa Kane Low, Senior Associate Dean for Professional Graduate Studies and Professional Relations

Degrees



Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

Prepares nurses for advanced clinical practice or leadership roles. Students choose a specialty area and engage in rigorous coursework and hands-on clinical experiences.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The highest practice-focused nursing degree, designed for nurses seeking to lead at executive levels of clinical care and health systems management.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Nursing

A research-focused degree that prepares nurse scientists to develop new knowledge and shape the future of nursing through original research.

MSN & DNP Specialties

Applicants to the MSN and DNP programs select a specialty that aligns with their interests and career goals.

Online MSN Programs

- Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

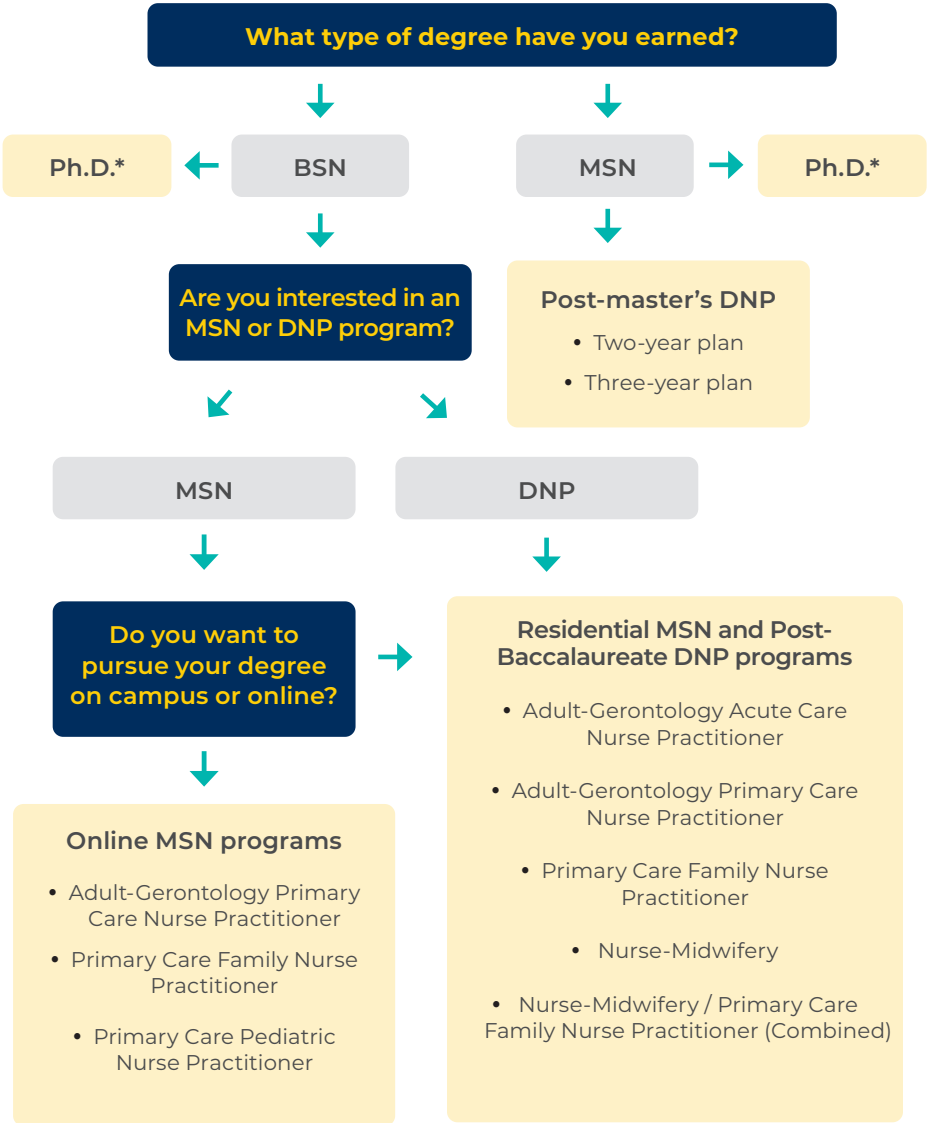
On-Campus MSN and DNP Programs

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse-Midwifery
- Nurse-Midwifery / Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner (Combined)

Post-Master's Option

- Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice

Which Program is Right for You?



*For more information on Ph.D. applications, scan the QR code or refer to pages 11-13 of this booklet.



MSN or DNP



Nurses with a BSN or MSN have multiple options for advanced education. At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, our graduate programs are designed to match your experience level and career goals.

The MSN prepares students for advanced practice roles. Many MSN graduates pursue certification as nurse practitioners in a focused population area.

The BSN-to-DNP pathway allows students to earn a terminal practice degree while also preparing for certification as an APRN.

The Post-Master's DNP is designed for nurses who already hold a master's degree and want to deepen their leadership, policy, or systems-level expertise.

Looking to specialize?
Start with an MSN.



Ready to lead at the highest level?
A DNP may be for you.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Become an expert in the care of acutely ill patients with multiple, complex health problems. Adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioners focus on young adult to older adult patients with critical and chronic illnesses, providing high-quality care that can reduce hospital stays and improve patient and family satisfaction.

Degree options

- Two-year MSN
- Three-year MSN
- Three-year DNP
- Four-year DNP

At a glance

- **Careers:** Hospital settings, subspecialty clinics, inpatient services
 - **Patients:** Age 13 – older adults
 - **Skills:** Adaptability, critical thinking, collaboration, patient advocacy
-

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Provide cutting-edge care with a focus on the well-being of families and communities. Adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioners engage in health care management, health prevention and disease promotion for adolescent and adult patients in a wide variety of clinical settings.

Degree options

- Two-year MSN
- Three-year MSN
- Three-year DNP
- Four-year DNP

Online degree options

- Two-year digital education MSN
- Three-year digital education MSN

At a glance

- **Careers:** Outpatient settings, family and internal medicine, subspecialty clinics
- **Patients:** Age 13 – older adults
- **Skills:** Critical thinking, listening, motivating

Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner

Become a leader in an ever-changing primary health care system, providing community-based care to individuals and families across the lifespan. Family nurse practitioners place an enhanced focus on health promotion and disease prevention, developing positive health behaviors for patients of all backgrounds, with the knowledge and flexibility to pursue career opportunities in multiple settings.

Degree options

- Two-year MSN
- Three-year MSN
- Three-year DNP
- Four-year DNP

Online degree options

- Two-year digital education MSN
- Three-year digital education MSN

At a glance

- **Careers:** Outpatient settings, family and internal medicine, subspecialty clinics
 - **Patients:** All ages, including pregnant women
 - **Skills:** Critical thinking, listening, motivating
-

Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Enhance pediatric health by providing specialized care to children and families. Primary care pediatric nurse practitioners provide well-baby, well-child and specialized care in a number of settings. In this advanced practice role, you will manage minor acute and chronic health conditions while also educating families about positive health practices to support them in their role as caregivers.

Online degree options

- Two-year digital education MSN
- Three-year digital education MSN

At a glance

- **Careers:** Primary care settings, subspecialty clinics
- **Patients:** Infants to adolescents
- **Skills:** Communication, listening, teaching, motivating

Nurse-Midwifery

Take on the complex challenges and rewarding experiences involved in infant and maternal health. Nurse-midwives are educators, advocates and scholars who promote women's health care across the lifespan, focusing on pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum and newborn care, with the advanced knowledge and skills to also address women's family planning and gynecological needs.

Students in the Nurse-Midwifery program can also earn a combined degree with the Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner specialty, with the ability to sit for certification exams in both areas.

Degree options

- Two-year MSN
- Three-year MSN (also available for the combined program)
- Three-year DNP
- Four-year DNP (also available for the combined program)

At a glance

- **Careers:** Full-scope office visits and births
- **Patients:** Individuals needing reproductive, prenatal and birth care
- **Skills:** Listening, patience, thinking/acting quickly



Post-Master's DNP

At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, our Post-Master's DNP program prepares advanced practice nurses and nurse leaders to translate evidence into practice and drive health care change. You'll gain the skills and experience needed to lead at the highest level while advancing your career.

Designed for advanced practice nurses and nurse leaders ready to lead health care change.

- **Hybrid format: web-blended online courses with required on-campus days each semester.**
- **Two- or three-year plans available.**
- **Complete a minimum of 1,000 hours of mentored experiences. Students may transfer up to 500 documented clinical hours from their master's program.**
- **Access to U-M's national network of clinical sites for your DNP residency.**
- **Focus on translating evidence into practice and leading system-level change.**



Ph.D. in Nursing

The University of Michigan School of Nursing Ph.D. program prepares nurse scientists to advance health care through discovery and research. You'll join a vibrant scholarly community with the resources, mentorship, and flexibility you need to shape the future of nursing.

Designed for nurses ready to lead through discovery and research.

- **Part of the nation's top-ranked public research university, providing an unmatched scholarly environment.**
- **Personalized, apprenticeship-based model with world-renowned faculty mentors.**
- **Fully funded, allowing you to focus on your research full time.**
- **Access to interdisciplinary collaboration across the university.**
- **Opportunities for dissertation support, grant-writing, and structured mentoring.**
- **Prepares you to design and conduct original research, evaluate evidence, and contribute to nursing theory.**
- **Flexibility to tailor your experience with certificates and cross-campus collaborations.**



DNP or Ph.D.

The University of Michigan School of Nursing offers **two doctoral pathways** designed for nurses ready to advance health care in different ways.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

- Prepares expert clinicians and nurse leaders to translate evidence into practice and lead health system change.
- Emphasis on improving patient and system outcomes through quality improvement and evidence-based practice.
- Post-Master's and Post-Baccalaureate entry available with a blend of on-campus, hybrid, and digital course modalities.
- Includes advanced clinical experiences and leadership development.
- Ideal if you seek to advance your clinical practice and lead in complex care environments.

Ph.D. in Nursing

- Prepares nurse scientists to conduct original research that advances nursing science and improves health outcomes.
- Emphasis on theory development, research design, data analysis, and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- On campus program only.
- Program requirements are distributed across two areas of knowledge: substantive research focus in nursing; and statistics and methods.
- Fully funded with traditional and accelerated pathways available.
- Apprenticeship-based model with close faculty mentorship.
- Ideal if you are interested in an academic or research-focused career.



Not sure which is right for you?
Scan the QR code to explore both programs and learn how each will prepare you to shape the future of health care.

Research



Research fuels innovation in care, policy and equity at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Our faculty lead interdisciplinary studies across areas like substance use, trauma, chronic disease, reproductive health, and care delivery.

Graduate students can explore opportunities to get involved through assistantships, funded projects and faculty mentorship.

Our research is supported by a network of interdisciplinary centers and initiatives that explore topics including:

- Artificial intelligence in health care
- Sexual and reproductive health equity
- Substance use and addiction
- Trauma and adverse childhood experiences
- Global non-communicable disease research
- Patient safety and harm prevention
- Chronic disease self-management



Clinical Experiences



At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, you won't have to find your own clinical placement. We handle the entire process for MSN and DNP students: from matching you with a preceptor and securing a clinical site to managing onboarding and compliance.

Most students complete hours in at least three distinct areas, giving them a competitive edge after graduation. With more than 1,300 experienced preceptors and 600+ clinical partners across the country, our clinical sites span:

- Urban and rural clinics
- Primary and specialty practices
- Hospitals and trauma centers
- Birthing centers
- School systems
- Home care and hospice
- Government and veteran-focused agencies

“I was pushed out of my comfort zone every day. My preceptor didn't let me sit back—she held me accountable, challenged my thinking, and gave me the confidence to grow.”

Ryan Caldwell, trauma surgery NP



Visit the U-M School of Nursing website for up-to-date licensure disclosures.

Certificates & Concentrations



Certificate programs can complement your degree by allowing you to develop specialized knowledge in focused areas of nursing and health care.

- Certificate in Nursing Education
- Interprofessional Mini-Certificate in Trauma-Informed Practice
- LGBTQ+ Health Mini-Certificate Program
- Post-Master's Advanced Practice Certificates:
 - Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
 - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
 - Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 - Nurse-Midwifery



Learn more about our certificate programs

Concentrations can be added to your degree program, providing experiences and coursework that can enhance your clinical practice, scholarly interests and career goals.

- Global Health Concentration for MSN and DNP students
- Global Practice, Policy and Leadership for DNP students



Learn more about our concentrations

Global Health



In today's interconnected world, nurses with global experience are in high demand. At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, we're building a diverse community of global health leaders through education, research and service.

For more than two decades, we have been a Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization Collaborating Center — a recognition of our long-standing commitment to global health promotion.

Global opportunities include:

- Clinical and research immersions in countries such as Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Thailand, Uganda, and Zambia
- Internships with international partners, including PAHO in Nicaragua
- On-campus programs like the Global Summer Institute and the Global Health Coffee and Conversation Series



“I want to be a practitioner who cares for the underserved, and I think that desire comes from my experiences connecting with these communities around the world.”

Sarah Warnez, DNP student

World-Class Faculty



University of Michigan School of Nursing faculty are more than experts—they're leaders in practice, research, and health policy who are shaping the future of health care. They bring real-world experience and global insight into every classroom and clinical setting.

As a graduate student, you'll be guided by experts who are invested in your growth and eager to help you turn your passion into impact. At Michigan, you won't just learn from the best—you'll be supported, challenged, and inspired by them.



Faculty Spotlight

Chin Hwa (Gina) Dahlem, Ph.D., FNP-C, FAANP

Family nurse practitioner and national leader in opioid overdose prevention. Her work—rooted in community-based care—has increased access to life-saving naloxone and educated thousands on overdose response.



Our Community



Connected. Supported. Empowered.

At the University of Michigan School of Nursing, you'll be part of a vibrant, welcoming community. Whether you're seeking peer connection, professional development, or support throughout your graduate journey, you'll find countless ways to engage and get involved.

This is a place where you can bring your full self, pursue your goals, and find a network that supports you along the way.

Support and Resources

We offer a variety of resources tailored to graduate student life:

- Peer-facilitated study sessions for select courses
- Faculty and alumni mentoring programs
- Workshops and events with campus and clinical leaders
- Opportunities to serve in leadership roles and advisory councils



Our Campus



The University of Michigan School of Nursing offers modern, flexible spaces designed for learning, collaboration, and hands-on practice.

Our two buildings on North Ingalls Street sit at the center of campus, just steps from the Michigan Medicine complex. Inside, you'll find:

- **Clinical Learning Center:** A cutting-edge simulation lab where you practice realistic health care scenarios.
- **Flexible Classrooms:** Equipped for hybrid learning with integrated technology.
- **Collaboration and Study Spaces:** Shared lounges, private rooms, and newly renovated 24/7 study areas built to fit your schedule and style.

Experience a supportive academic environment surrounded by the unique culture, dining and recreational opportunities that make Ann Arbor one of the best college towns in America.



Take the next step!

Explore graduate programs that fit your goals, join an information session, and apply. At Michigan, you'll find the options, rigor, and support to advance your nursing career.



Explore. Connect. Apply.



@UMichNursing