Nursing Education and Leadership, MSN

Program Description

The Master of Science in Nursing in Education and Leadership (MSN) will prepare nurses to lead change to improve quality outcomes, advance a culture of excellence through lifelong learning, build and lead collaborative interprofessional care teams, navigate and integrate care services across the health care system, design innovative nursing practices, and translate evidence into practice.

Students will be prepared to apply best practices in teaching, learning, and leadership for roles in various organizational and academic settings. The MSN program is for the nurse interested in pursuing a career as either a faculty in a school of nursing, a staff educator in a health care organization, or a leader in a school of nursing or a health care organization.

The MSN will additionally focus on critical thinking, judgment, and specialty expertise; understanding health systems and the context of policy and economics; engaging in interprofessional care and collaboration, and increasing awareness of public health needs in various settings.

Definition of the EPSLO Keywords for the MSN Program

Person-centered Care: In a nursing education or leadership context, Person-centered Care can be defined as an approach that values and respects the unique needs, preferences, and contributions of all individuals involved in the health care educational or leadership environment. The focus extends beyond patient care to include students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders. By prioritizing these individuals' voices and experiences, a more inclusive and effective educational or leadership setting can be achieved.

Clinical Judgment: In a nursing education or leadership context, Clinical Judgment refers to the advanced decision-making skills demonstrated by nursing education and leadership professionals in synthesizing theoretical knowledge, empirical evidence, and ethical considerations to resolve complex challenges. It involves the application of analytical reasoning, critical thinking, and specialized expertise to make informed judgments that influence educational strategies, leadership initiatives, and organizational outcomes.

Communication: In a nursing education or leadership environment, Communication refers to the strategic and intentional exchange of information, ideas, and feedback among various health care stakeholders, such as faculty, students, administrators, patients, patient families, and community partners. This extends beyond mere verbal or written dialogue to include non-verbal cues, emotional intelligence, and active listening. The objective is to foster a collaborative, transparent, and inclusive setting where information is clearly understood, actions are effectively coordinated, and organizational goals are collaboratively achieved.

Compassionate Care: In a nursing education or leadership environment, Compassionate Care refers to the ethical and intentional practice of empathy, understanding, and respect in interactions with stakeholders such as students, faculty, staff, and community partners. It involves recognizing individual needs, valuing diversity, and fostering an inclusive atmosphere that enables all participants to thrive personally and professionally.

Professionalism: In a nursing education or leadership context, Professionalism refers to consistently demonstrating ethical behavior, competence, and the skills necessary to instill trust and confidence among health care stakeholders. This includes faculty, students, staff, and community partners in an academic setting or team members and stakeholders in a leadership role.

Accreditation

The Utah Board of Nursing (BON) has approved Utah Tech's Nursing Programs as required. Effective November 7, 2022, the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is a candidate for initial accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. This candidacy status expires on November 7, 2024.

NOTE: Upon granting of initial accreditation by the ACEN Board of Commissioners, the effective date of initial accreditation is the date on which the nursing program was approved by the ACEN as a candidate program that concluded in the Board of Commissioners granting initial accreditation.

ACEN

3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, GA 30326

404.975.5000

www.acenursing.org (https://www.acenursing.org/)

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements include having an unencumbered registered nurse license in their state of residency, as well as a Bachelor of Science in nursing degree from a regionally accredited school with a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required.

A maximum of six graduate level semester transfer credits may be applied. These must be from a regionally accredited institution, completed within the past 5 years, and have an earned grade of “B” or higher.

There is no RN work requirement nor current employment as an RN requirement in order to be eligible for admission to the MSN program.

RN licensure in the student’s state of residence/employment is required to successfully complete projects. Compact licenses must be endorsed by your state of residence.

Letter of intent outlining the following:

1. Personal statement as to why you are choosing to enhance your career by completing this MSN program.

2. Tentative graduation plan for completion.

Program Curriculum

36 credits

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 6100	Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice: Roles, Ethics, and Leadership	3
NURS 6250	Evaluation of Evidence	3
NURS 6300	Information Management and Health Care Technologies	3
NURS 6400	Advanced Issues in Pharmacology and Pathophysiology	3
NURS 6510	Community and Global Determinants of Health	2
NURS 6540	Communication and Collaboration in Nursing Leadership	3
NURS 6550	Health Care Systems and Organizational Leadership	3
NURS 6551	Practicum: Leading Effective Organizations	1
NURS 6650	Teaching Methodologies and Technologies	3
NURS 6651	Practicum: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies	1
NURS 6700	Advanced Health Assessment and Promotion	2
NURS 7101	Practicum Capstone	3
NURS 6530	Advanced Leadership Strategies for Nursing Professionals	3
NURS 6630	Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation	3

Graduation Requirements

1. Complete 36 credits, which encompasses successful completion with the minimum of a letter C grade of each of the 14 courses in the program.

2. Earn a 3.0 or higher grade point average in the graduate program.

3. Apply for graduation to the university by the posted deadline. https://graduatestudies.utahtech.edu/apply-for-graduation/

4. Complete all other program and university requirements.

Graduation Plan

Depending on how many credits you are taking, for your personalized graduation plan, please contact the MSN program director/academic advisor at nursing@utahtech.edu. She will provide guidance on course sequencing, practicum requirements, and any specific considerations based on your academic and professional goals.

Master of Science in Nursing - Education and Leadership Program Learning Outcomes

At the successful conclusion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Person-centered Care: Develop and implement a comprehensive person-centered strategy that sustains nursing education and/or leadership stakeholders.

2. Clinical Judgment: Synthesize and integrate evidence-based research and best practices to make informed decisions in nursing educational or leadership contexts.

3. Communication: Select advanced communication competencies to effectively engage health care stakeholders and achieve organizational goals.

4. Compassionate Care: Integrate compassionate care to foster well-being and inclusivity among diverse health care stakeholders.

5. Professionalism: Exemplify professionalism to foster a culture of excellence among health care stakeholders.

Graduate-level Role Specific Competencies:

The **MSN Education and Leadership program** prepares graduates with advanced specialty nursing competencies. Grounded in the **American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL) Core Competencies**, the **National League for Nursing (NLN) Nurse Educator Competencies**, and the **AACN Essentials for Advanced-Level Nursing Education Competencies**, the program prepares students with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary to excel as nurse leaders and educators in a variety of health care and academic settings. With these competencies, graduates will function effectively in leadership and educator roles. Upon meeting the required experiential practice hours, the student may pursue national nursing leadership or education certification if desired.