

Dear Potential Applicant to the Graduate Programs in Nursing (MS and DNP),

Thank you for expressing interest in our school's offerings. The Master of Science Degree Program in Nursing builds upon undergraduate nursing education and clinical experiences, and prepares students for advanced nursing practice in women's health, midwifery and public health and for the role of Clinical Nurse Leader.

The Doctorate of Nursing Practice prepares nurses to practice at the highest level. The School offers the DNP in the specialties of Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Public Health Nursing Leadership.

Please note that this application is intended for Master of Science (MS) and Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) applicants only. Applicants to the PhD program will find information on our website at www.umass.edu/nursing/programs/pro_grad_PhD/g_phd.html.

Enclosed you will find information on the Graduate Degree Programs and an application to the School of Nursing. Please see the website for plans of study for each offering. We hope that this information assists you in making your decision to join us in our excellent and exciting programs. Information sessions will be held periodically. Please check our website at www.umass.edu/nursing for updated information session dates. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Administrative Assistant, Karen Ayotte, at (413) 545-1302, kayotte@nursing.umass.edu

Sincerely,



*Carol Picard, PhD, RN
Graduate Program Director, Nursing*

University of Massachusetts School of Nursing Vision

The School of Nursing is a force for innovation, learning and discovery in preparing culturally proficient nurses for leadership in health for a global society.

Programs of Study

This application is for those who are interested in pursuing one of the following Graduate Plans of Study at the UMass Amherst School of Nursing:

- Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner
- Collaborative MS/Midwifery Program
- Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)
- MS/MPH Dual Degree Program

Master Of Science Degree Programs in Nursing

The Master of Science Degree Program in Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst builds on previous nursing education and clinical experience, prepares students for advanced practice women's health, midwifery (a collaborative program with Baystate Medical Center), and for the role of Clinical Nurse Leader. The MS/MPH Dual Degree is an online track, offered through the Division of Continuing Education under the auspices of the School of Nursing and the School of Public Health and Health Sciences.

The Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), a national nursing education accrediting body. The School of Nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The School of Public Health program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

The Master of Science Degree Program strengthens health care delivery by teaching the advanced knowledge and skills needed to provide comprehensive, across-the-life-span nursing services to individuals, families, and groups. The program's teaching, inquiry, and outreach prepare professional nurses to think critically and reflectively, respect and relate well to others, and manage care autonomously while holistically assessing and treating both health care needs and human responses to illness. The program also promotes social accountability: students are educated and encouraged to work for reform in the health care system at the community, regional, and national levels.

Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The DNP program prepares advanced practice nurses at the highest level. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the professional organization for higher education in nursing has mandated a transition from the current Master of Science (MS) degree for advanced practice nurses to the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree by the year 2015. This professional nursing preparation will include advanced coursework in leadership, research translation, clinical knowledge and skills. This proposed change was driven by evolving nursing roles in an increasingly complex health care system, the flood of new scientific knowledge, and ongoing concerns about the quality and outcomes of patient care.

The School prepares DNP graduates in three areas: Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Public Health Nursing Leadership Specialist. It is a post-Baccalaureate program; however, a post-masters entry is available and involves a review of previous coursework and training through a portfolio process.

Graduates of the DNP program will practice at the highest level. Specific goals of the program are to graduate nurses who will:

- engage in nursing practice using the advanced knowledge from nursing and related disciplines to improve health outcomes,
- provide leadership and collaborate with leaders in other professions for change in systems of care,
- synthesize and translate evidence from nursing and other disciplines to manage complex health problems, and
- provide culturally proficient care to respond to health disparities and societal needs.

For more information, please visit the Graduate Programs Page at the School of Nursing website: <http://www.umass.edu/nursing/programs/graduate.html>

Applying to the School of Nursing Graduate Programs

Requirements for Admission

All applicants must meet the general requirements of the University of Massachusetts Graduate School as well as those of the School of Nursing. These include:

- Completion of a Baccalaureate degree from a nationally accredited school of Nursing, or be a registered nurse with a non-nursing baccalaureate degree
- Completion of an undergraduate Health Assessment course, and an undergraduate elementary Statistics course (or equivalents, or permission of program director) *
- Undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 (B) or higher - *or* Graduate Record Exam (GRE) if GPA is less than 3.0
- Current licensure as a registered nurse
- Two letters of recommendation
- Where applicable, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) (see http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/prospective_students_GRE_GMAT_TOEFL_exams.htm for more information)
- Written statement of professional goals
- Original writing sample

* Only the Statistics course is required for MS/MPH applicants

Selection Procedure

- Applicants are ranked according to the strength of their qualifications.
- Qualifications which determine rank are: GPA, GRE scores (if needed), recommendations, professional goals, scholarly writing samples and TOEFL for foreign students.

How to Apply

Completed applications are due February 1st prior to the Fall term you intend to enroll*. The applicant is responsible for verifying that the School of Nursing office has received all application materials. To confirm receipt of application materials, contact Karen Ayotte at (413) 545-1302 or kayotte@nursing.umass.edu. Late applications will be forwarded to the following year's application pool.

* NOTE: DNP applications for Fall 2006 will be taken until July 28th, 2006.

Application is a two-part process: (1) *First* fill out a University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School Application; (2) Fill out *this* application for the School of Nursing, beginning on page 6.

Applying to the University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School

To receive a University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School Application, you can call (413) 545-0721 – or download an application or apply online by visiting the website at www.umass.edu/gradschool/. A completed Graduate School Application must include the following:

- Submission of two official (unopened) transcripts documenting completion of a Baccalaureate degree.
- Two completed recommendation forms (*original* copies only)
- Required applicant fee
- TOEFL Scores, if applicable
- Check or Money Order for \$40 (US residents), or \$65 for International students, payable to the University of Massachusetts

Also *recommended*, if your Baccalaureate GPA was less than 3.0:

- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Scores taken within the past five years (if needed)

Send the above items to:

UMass Graduate Admissions Office
530 Goodell Building
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-0420

Applying to the School of Nursing

After submitting your application to the University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School, but before the February 1st deadline, submit your completed School of Nursing Degree Application. Please see the application form (beginning on page 6) for details.

In submitting all applications, please remember . . .

- Read all instructions carefully.
- Type or print legibly in ink.
- Complete all applicable information and sign in the appropriate places.
- Enclose all supplemental materials with the application. Faxed materials cannot be accepted.

Notification of Admission Status

Students will be notified by mail of their admission status by the Graduate School and the School of Nursing. Please allow three months after the deadline date for decisions to be made.

Additional materials you must provide following notification

Applicants who are admitted to the Graduate Program in Nursing must provide the School of Nursing with the following documentation by **September 1***:

- Physical exam within the past 6 months
- TB skin test within the past 12 months
- CPR certification within the past year
- Hepatitis B immunization
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella immunization
- Health insurance
- Malpractice insurance

* Note: MS/MPH students NOT required to provide this information

Cost of Program

All Graduate programs include some coursework through the UMass Amherst Division of Continuing Education, as well as the University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School.

For information about tuition, fees, and other costs charged by the UMass Amherst Graduate School, please refer to the fee schedule posted by the Bursar's Office (for academic year 2006-7) at http://www.umass.edu/bursar/2006-07_grad_fees.pdf, or contact the Bursar's Office directly at (413) 545-2368.

For information about tuition, fees, and other costs charged by the Division of Continuing Education (CE), please visit the "fees" page on their website at <https://www.umasslearn.net/InfoFeesAll.htm.asp>, or call CE at (413) 545-3653 or 800-922-8211. Visa, MasterCard or Discover are accepted.

The distribution of coursework (and costs) between the Graduate School and the Division of Continuing Education varies by program. For more information, please contact Karen Ayotte at (413) 545-1302 or kayotte@nursing.umass.edu.

University of Massachusetts Amherst
School of Nursing
Application for Admission

Note: This application is *not* required for PhD applicants. PhD applicants need only to complete the UMass Amherst Graduate School application.

Date _____

Please check which concentration you are applying for:

_____ DNP _____ WHNP _____ Midwifery _____ CNL _____ MS/MPH

Personal Information

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)

Date of Birth ____/____/____
mo/day/yr

Social Security Number ____ - ____ - ____ Mass Residency Status: ____ Resident ____ Non-Resident

Permanent Address: _____ Telephone no. _____

_____ Email address: _____

Local Address: _____ Telephone no. _____

_____ Email address: _____

Place of Work: _____ Telephone no. _____

Work Schedule: _____

Address: _____

Person to notify in case of emergency: _____ Telephone no. _____

Current Employment Setting/Type of Agency: (Circle all that apply)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| a. Hospital Out-Patient | f. Extended Care Facility/Rehab | k. Education Institution – Faculty |
| b. Hospital In-Patient | g. Public Health Department | l. HMO |
| c. Mental Health, Out-Patient | h. Visiting Nurse/Home Health | m. Mental Health Care for Homeless or Migrant |
| d. Mental Health, In-Patient | i. School (Primary & Secondary) | n. Other: _____ |
| e. Community Health Care | j. School (College Health) | |

Current Professional Nurse Licensure and Certification

State _____ Registration No _____ Expiration Date _____

Certification (if applicable) _____ Registration No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Liability Insurance Carrier (please enclose photocopy): _____

Expiration Date _____

Educational Record

	Name of School/Location	Diploma/Degree or # of Credits Earned	Date of Graduation
Diploma			
Associate Degree			
Baccalaureate Degree			
Masters Degree			
Statistics/Biostatistics Course ¹	Name of School / Title of Course / Grade Received		
Undergraduate Health Assessment Course ^{1,2}	Name of School / Title of Course / Grade Received		
Undergraduate Grade Point Average	Name of School/GPA		

1. Transcripts documenting completion of these courses must be provided; if they were completed at an institution *other* than the one which granted your Baccalaureate degree (enclosed with your application to the UMass Amherst Graduate School), please provide those transcripts as well.
2. Not required for MS/MPH applicants.

GRE Scores (if GPA lower than 3.0): V _____ Q _____ Date Taken: _____

Professional Experience In Nursing (Please Attach Resume)

Please list most recent experience first; use additional paper if necessary.

Name of Agency	Position Title	Clinical Area	Dates Employed	Part or Full Time

Total number of years of clinical experience: _____

Permission to publicize information

Once you have been accepted, the School of Nursing internally circulates a list of fellow student names, addresses and phone numbers. **Please sign** to indicate that you would like your name on this list to be shared with students: _____

Academic Honesty

Please see the following page for the *American Nurses Association Code of Ethics*, and the *University of Massachusetts Academic Honesty Policy*, and sign the following statement:

I have read the enclosed *American Nurses Association Code of Ethics*, and the *University of Massachusetts Academic Honesty Policy*. Please sign to indicate that you have read and understood both the *American Nurses Association Code of Ethics*, and the *University of Massachusetts Academic Honesty Policy*.

Signed: _____

Other Materials to Include with this Application

_____ Career Goals

Write a 250 – 300 word essay addressing your current career goals. The essay must be typed, double spaced, and submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Place your name in the top right corner of each page. The essay will be evaluated on clarity, clear presentation of ideas, content depth and reasoning, grammar, sentence structure and neatness.

_____ Scholarly Writing Sample

Please submit a sample of scholarly writing. Examples include a paper written for an academic course, a 3-4 page referenced paper describing a nursing or health related issue, or an article or publication.

_____ A copy of your current Nursing license

_____ Copies of your current Nursing certification(s) (if applicable)

_____ Verification of your current CPR certification

_____ Verification of malpractice insurance

_____ Your current resumé

Please send the above items to:

School of Nursing, Master's Degree Programs
715 North Pleasant St
Amherst, MA 01003.

Academic Honesty Policy

All members of the University community must participate in the development of a climate conducive to academic honesty. While the faculty, because of their unique role in the educational process, have the responsibility for defining, encouraging, fostering, and upholding the ethic of academic honesty, students have the responsibility of conforming in all respects to that ethic.

Intellectual honesty requires that students demonstrate their own learning during examinations and other academic exercises, and that other sources of information or knowledge be appropriately credited. Scholarship depends upon the reliability of information and reference in the work of others. No form of cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or facilitating of dishonesty will be condoned in the University community.

Within the clinical setting for coursework, the student practices as an extension of the faculty member's professional license. This practice is a privilege and implies a trusting relationship between instructor and student. It is essential that students exercise competent and ethical behavior.

Formal definitions of academic dishonesty, examples of various forms of dishonesty, and the procedures which faculty must follow to penalize dishonesty are contained in the Graduate Student Handbook http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/handbook/univ_policies_regulations_a.htm The Graduate Student Handbook states "It is the expressed policy of the University that every aspect of graduate academic life, related in whatever fashion to the University, shall be conducted in an absolutely and uncompromisingly honest manner by graduate students. Apparent and alleged breaches in this policy are covered in the Graduate Student Academic Policy (Sen. Doc. no. to 89-026). A copy of this policy is available in the Ombuds Office, Faculty Senate Office and the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School. See the full text at: http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/

American Nurses' Association Code of Ethics

1. The nurse, in all professional relationships, practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and uniqueness of every individual, unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, or community. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and rights of the patient.
3. The nurse is responsible and accountable for individual nursing practice and determines the appropriate delegation of tasks consistent with the nurse's obligation to provide optimum patient care.
4. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to preserve integrity and safety, to maintain competence, and to continue personal and professional growth.
5. The nurse participates in establishing, maintaining, and improving health care environments and conditions of employment conducive to the provision of quality health care and consistent with the values of the profession through individual and collective action.
6. The nurse participates in the advancement of the profession through contributions to practice, education, administration, and knowledge development.
7. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public in promoting community, national, and international efforts to meet health needs.
8. The profession of nursing, as represented by associations and their members, is responsible for articulating nursing values, for maintaining the integrity of the profession and its practice, and for shaping social policy.

Voted on and accepted by the ANA House of Delegates on June 30, 2001. The Code of Ethics for Nurses is available from American Nurses Publishing at (800) 637-0323 or www.nursesbooks.org