What is an NNP?
An NNP is an advanced practice nurse who comes with clinical expertise in neonatal nursing and is educated in the management of high-risk neonate that incorporates principles of fetal development, physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, developmental theory, and family theory. NNPs are also involved in case management, consultation, education and research activities.

What kinds of patients do NNPs care for?
The focus of care for NNPs is high-risk full-term and preterm neonates who are most often acutely ill. NNPs admit and discharge these ill neonates as well as manage their entire hospitalization in collaboration with the neonatologist.

Where do NNPs work?
The NNP program prepares advanced practice nurses to work primarily in a neonatal intensive care unit. NNPs also work in a variety of other settings, including transport team, delivery rooms, developmental follow-up clinics, and primary care settings.

What skills do NNPs have?
NNPs perform all standard procedural skills unique to managing a sick neonate, including (but not limited to) umbilical catheterization, endotracheal intubation, chest tube insertion, lumbar punctures, exchange transfusions, and percutaneous venous and arterial line placement. NNPs also possess the skills necessary to order and interpret diagnostic tests, prescribe medications and manage nutritional needs.

Are NNPs required to have any work experience to be eligible for certification?
In order to be eligible for neonatal nurse practitioner certification, students must have one year of full-time work experience in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) prior to beginning clinical courses. Students who do not have this experience may work in a NICU while pursuing classes.

How long will it take to complete the program? May I attend part-time?
The minimum time to complete the MS degree is two years of full-time study. Part-time study is an option and may take 3 years. The Graduate Entry program is 4 years full time.

What kind of grades must I earn?
A minimum 3.0 GPA (B average) is required in all courses for both admission and retention by the Graduate School.

Is financial aid available?
Yes, in very limited amounts. Information and applications for financial aid are available from the College of Nursing Graduate Outreach Office, or under the financial aid overview page of the College of Nursing website www.nursing.osu.edu.

Will I be able to work while going to school?
For Graduate Entry students, the coursework and clinicals are rigorous, especially in the first and second years but some Graduate Entry students do work part-time, usually no more than 10-15 hours per week. In the third year of study, some Graduate Entry students choose to work part-time as registered nurses. For Traditional Masters students, a part time option is available which allows students to work while completing the program.