### Sample Graduate Entry curriculum

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<th>Autumn</th>
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Total option credit hours: 106

* Students must take N6480 prior to N7483

These sample curricula are for illustration purposes only. Your specific curriculum plan must be confirmed by your faculty advisor. Course numbers, semester of offering, and specialty requirements are subject to change. Additional information may be found at [www.nursing.osu.edu/fnp](http://www.nursing.osu.edu/fnp).

### Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

**Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**

A Family Nurse Practitioner provides healthcare to families and individuals across the lifespan, with an emphasis on health and wellness.

### FAQs

**What is an FNP?**

Family Nurse Practitioners (FNPs) are healthcare providers with specialized, advanced, graduate nursing education who provide healthcare to individuals and families across the lifespan. In addition to diagnosing and treating common episodic acute and chronic conditions, FNPs emphasize health and wellness within families. FNPs are primary care providers, meaning that they help families manage the healthcare delivery system to obtain needed care. FNPs often work with people who are considered vulnerable because of their age, ethnicity, access to healthcare, or socioeconomic status. FNPs are committed to quality healthcare and improved clinical outcomes. Coursework, clinical experiences, and applying theory and research findings into practice allow graduate nursing students to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for this advanced practice nursing role. Upon graduation from the program, graduate nurses will be eligible for certification as FNPs. As licensed nurses and certified primary care providers, FNPs practice independently and in collaboration with healthcare professionals to assess, diagnose, treat, and manage the health needs of families.

**Where do FNPs practice?**

Graduates of the OSU College of Nursing FNP specialty are prepared to offer primary care in a variety of clinical settings ranging from private practices, outpatient clinics, and hospitals to retail health, managed care organizations, business, and governmental agencies. Teaching and coaching families and individuals are major parts of NP practice; FNPs can serve as interdisciplinary consultants and patient advocates.

**What skills will I need to become an FNP?**

After graduation, you will enter the workforce with the skills and competencies to:
- provide health promotion and primary healthcare for individuals and families
- apply theory and research in practice with individuals and families
- develop, implement, and assess nursing strategies to assure quality of care
- utilize leadership skills for positive change at the local, regional, and national levels
- provide advocacy for all participants in the constantly changing health care environment
- establish a climate of consistent learning and innovation that positively contributes to the advancement of the profession
- adapt professionally to the constantly changing health care environment

**How long will it take to complete the program?**

As a Traditional Master student pursuing the FNP specialty, you can complete the program in two years of full-time or three years of part-time study. As a Graduate Entry student, you can complete the program in three years of full-time study. If you enter the FNP specialty as a Post-Masters student, you will develop an individualized plan of study with an advisor based on previous coursework. Please note that the precepted clinicals in the final year of study require all students to be full-time.

**Is there a distance-learning option for this specialty?**

Yes! The distance learning option is available for students who are registered nurses with a bachelor’s degree, nurses with non-clinical master’s degrees, or current nurse practitioners who would like to be dual certified. Graduate Entry students are not
eligable for the distance learning option. As a distance learning student, you will take all courses online and complete your clinicals near your community. You are not required to come to campus for didactic or clinical exams. Online courses for this specialty include both asynchronous and synchronous course components, meaning that there are courses that have weekly online meeting times. The distance learning option has the same courses and clinical objectives to prepare students for FNP practice as the classroom option, and was developed to provide greater access to nursing education for RNs and NPs in areas with shortages of healthcare providers. The Ohio State University is seeking certification to offer our online programs outside of Ohio. To learn more about the authorization process and current nursing program authorization status, please visit [http://online.osu.edu/state-authorization](http://online.osu.edu/state-authorization).

What is expected for clinical practicums? During the final year of the graduate program, you will complete 200-225 precepted clinical hours each semester in primary care practices. As an FNP student, you will work with nurse practitioners and physicians in family, adult, pediatric, women’s health, and geriatric clinical sites. The placement office and FNP faculty work to place students with NP, MD, and DO preceptors, and may ask you to assist in the process. The placement office handles all in-state and out-of-state agency contracts. As an FNP student, you are required to complete a total of 650 clinical practicum hours prior to graduation. Most primary care clinical sites are available only during regular business hours on weekdays, as a student, you should plan to meet your clinical rotation goals during these times.

Is nursing experience required? Whether you are a recent graduate, pursuing a second career, or have years of nursing experience, you are welcome to apply to the master’s program. Nursing experience is not required for admission, however, healthcare experiences and observations can help you develop a broader understanding of advanced nursing practice.

Will I be able to work while going to school? For Traditional Master students, a part-time option is available which allows you to work while completing the program. Some Graduate Entry students work part-time, usually no more than 10-15 hours per week in a flexible work environment. In the third year of study, some Graduate Entry students choose to work part-time as registered nurses.

How much does the program cost? Tuition and fees are dependent on the number of credits taken. Graduate Entry students will be full-time each semester of the program. Traditional Master students can either be full-time or part-time. Please visit the website for specific details on tuition, or consult the Financial Aid handbook.

Is financial aid available? Yes, you can apply for financial assistance in the form of scholarships and loans. Please visit [www.nursing.osu.edu/finaid](http://www.nursing.osu.edu/finaid) to learn more.

Is your program accredited? The nurse practitioner specialty meets the curriculum guidelines of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) and the standards for application for the credentialing examination (FNP) for both the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

How can I find out more? For more information please explore [www.nursing.osu.edu](http://www.nursing.osu.edu). Additional questions can be sent to nursing@osu.edu.

### Sample full-time Traditional Master curriculum

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| Year option credit hours: 63 |

### Sample part-time Traditional Master curriculum

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| Total option credit hours: 63 |

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1. On campus FNP students take N7260 in Autumn
2. Online FNP students take N7260 in Spring