

# POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE: NURSE PRACTITIONER (FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER)

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/nursing/master-of-science-in-nursing-msn/family-nurse-practitioner-fnp/>

Individuals who have a master's degree in nursing may be considered for admission to a Post-master's Certificate as a Nurse Practitioner.

Those students admitted to the Certificate program must have completed a graduate Physical Assessment course, a Pharmacology course, and a course in Pathophysiology with a grade of B or better (The three 'Ps'). The Pharmacology course must have been successfully completed within 6 years of the anticipated completion of the Post-Master's Certificate. Prerequisite courses for the Post-Master's Certificate are not required that are part of the MSN degree since all students admitted to the Certificate program must have a master's degree in nursing. Therefore, courses within the MSN are waived as pre-requisite except the Assessment, Pathophysiology and Pharmacology.

A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) who holds a master's or doctoral degree in a specific population focus. These include family, adult-gerontology (primary or acute care), neonatal, pediatrics (primary or acute care), women's health, or psychiatric-mental health populations. Texas Woman's University offers programs for family, adult-gerontology (primary and acute care), pediatric primary care, women's health, and psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner tracks.

The Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) provides care for patients of all ages and within many settings. The FNP role focuses on health promotion and health maintenance of patients while also managing both common acute and chronic health conditions across the lifespan in primary care.

## Marketable Skills

Marketable skills prepare students for success in a variety of professional settings. Developed through academic coursework, co-curricular engagement, and extracurricular involvement, these skills include communication, critical thinking, teamwork, ethical reasoning, adaptability, and digital literacy. Whether directly related to a student's major or serving as complementary strengths, marketable skills enhance career readiness and reflect TWU's commitment to producing graduates who are prepared to thrive in today's dynamic workforce.

1. Work well with teams and complete project work.
2. Collect and analyze information, problem-solve, and make decisions.
3. Effectively communicate through a variety of mediums and modes.

## Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<https://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

The academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

## Certificate Requirements

### Total Semester Credit Hours Required

27 semester credit hours (SCH).

### Prerequisites

These courses are considered prerequisites to a Post-Master's Certificate. If a student is practicing as an advanced practice registered nurse and is currently credentialed by the Texas Board of Nursing as an advanced practice registered nurse, the pharmacology course must have been completed no more than six years earlier (must be current within six years of anticipated certificate completion). If not, this coursework will need to be repeated for the new certificate.

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Required Courses</b>		
BIOL 5333	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5663	Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 5643	Advanced Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>9</b>

### Required Courses

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Online / Hybrid</b>		
NURS 5602	Foundational Concepts for the Family Nurse Practitioner	2
NURS 5603	Principles of Care Management, Diagnostics, and Common Procedural Interventions in Primary Care	3
NURS 5303	Primary Care Management of Common Acute Illnesses across the Lifespan	3
NURS 5493	Primary Care Disease and Restorative Health Practicum I	3
NURS 5893	Chronic Disease and Restorative Health Management across the Lifespan	3
NURS 5665	Chronic Disease and Restorative Health Practicum II	5
NURS 5703	Synthesis and Transition to Professional Practice for the Family Nurse Practitioner	3
NURS 5705	Primary Care Disease Management across the Lifespan Practicum III	5
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>27</b>