

MS in Nursing with Emphasis in Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist

The Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (PCNS) MS(N) program curriculum prepares nurses as expert clinicians to provide direct patient care from wellness through acute care with a focus on complex and vulnerable pediatric populations. The PCNS student will also be prepared to influence care outcomes by acting as a resource and providing expert consultation for nursing staff and other health professionals by implementing evidence-based practice initiatives to support improvements in healthcare delivery systems.

- Manage clinical efforts across healthcare settings
- Provide visionary leadership
- Lead quality and safety initiatives
- Implement evidence-based practice

Degree Requirements

The MS(N) Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (PCNS) curriculum provides core master's coursework in combination with PCNS clinical specialty courses. Clinical specialty courses focus on advanced practice care of the patient and family, clinical diagnosis and management of acute and chronic conditions, and managing quality, safety and performance outcomes at the systems level.

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) offers certification as a Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (AACN-PCNS). Students who have completed a master's degree in nursing in the PCNS emphasis area are eligible to sit for the certification exam. Previous graduate-level coursework from another institution may be accepted toward the degree depending upon transcript review. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 in order to graduate.

Core Courses

NURSE 7050	Introduction to Scholarly Writing	2
NURSE 7110	Advanced Nursing Roles and Professional Communication	2
NURSE 7160	Scientific Foundations for Health Sciences	4
NURSE 8170	Public Health, Sociocultural Issues, and Health Policy	3
NURSE 8910	Translational Evidence-Based Nursing Practice	3
NURSE 8990	Practice Inquiry	1

Emphasis Area Requirements

NURSE 7120	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology	3
NURSE 7130	Advanced Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics	3
NURSE 7140	Advanced Health Assessment and Promotion	3.5
NURSE 7145	Procedures and Diagnostics	3.5-5
NURSE 8210	Special Health Care Needs of Children	3.5
NURSE 8420	Newborn Through Adolescence Primary Care	3.5

NURSE 8545	Advanced Diagnostics and Reasoning in Practice	3.5
NURSE 8710	Clinical Management of Acute and Critical Care Problems	3.5
NURSE 8720	Symptom Management in Acute and Chronic Illness	3.5
NURSE 8920	Quality, Safety, and Performance Outcomes	3
NURSE 8980	Advanced Clinical Nursing Practicum	3

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans of study can be found on the Sinclair School of Nursing MSN webpage (<https://nursing.missouri.edu/academic-programs/master-of-science-nursing/overview-of-msn-pediatric-clinical-nurse-specialist/>).

Admissions

Applicants are required to meet two sets of minimum qualifications for admission: the requirements of the Master of Science program (<https://nursing.missouri.edu/academic-programs/master-of-science-nursing/how-to-apply/>) and the minimum requirements of the Graduate School (<https://gradschool.missouri.edu/admissions/eligibility-process/>). Because requirements vary, you *must* refer to a degree program's graduate admission page to learn about specific admission criteria, application deadlines, eligibility, and application process. Your application materials will be reviewed by both the Graduate School and the degree program to which you have applied before official admission to the University of Missouri.

Application Deadlines: After the application deadline, submitted materials will be reviewed. Applicants will receive notification of their acceptance decision within four weeks. Program application timelines vary by emphasis area. Refer to How to Apply (<https://nursing.missouri.edu/academic-programs/master-of-science-nursing/application-process/>) for specific deadlines.

State Authorization: Due to higher education regulation changes, the University of Missouri is unable to accept applications for admission to online programs from students residing in various states. You may find more information at this link: <https://online.missouri.edu/about/state-authorization/>.

Admission Contact Information

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