

Indiana State University
School of Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice (Post-Master's) Program

Applying to the DNP (Post-Master's) Program

Please check the availability of the online program in your [state](#).

Questions regarding the admission process or requirements should be directed to the School of Nursing via [email](#).

Apply to the ISU [College of Graduate and Professional Studies](#).

Please note that there is a non-refundable fee for this application.

1. Create an account for "[First-time users](#)"
2. Select new application
3. Enter "Personal information" and "Citizenship" to ensure you can see all of the programs for which you are eligible to apply. **Skipping this section or not answering questions will disqualify you from select programs.**
4. Under "Graduate Program of Study," you will need to select the following five items:
 - a. Select "Indiana State University Online" under the campus option.
 - b. Select "Nursing" under the field of study.
 - c. Select "DNP-Nurse Practitioner".
 - d. Select the term for which you wish to apply.
 - e. Select Student Type for "New Graduate" or "Returning" (if previously enrolled in an ISU graduate program).
5. Complete "Academic History", "Additional Information", and "Military".
6. Under Recommendations, after you have obtained permission to use someone as a reference, enter their name and email address into your application. **Send each reference the [Graduate Nursing Recommendation Form](#)** (we suggest entering your name and program information onto the form before sending). References will receive an email from Indiana State Admissions with a link to upload the completed form. **References only need to complete the form. A formal letter is not required.**
7. Once you are finished, confirm your intention to apply with "Signature" and "Review" to submit.
8. After you submit your application and pay the university application fee, please upload all of the required program materials listed below.

Required Program Materials

1. **Transcripts**
 - a. Official transcripts must be sent directly to ISU Admissions from all undergraduate and graduate institutions you have attended.
2. **First Tier of Required Program Materials** (application will not be considered until all first-tier requirements are received)
 - a. CV/Resume – This document should include employment history and community service.
 - b. Personal Goal Statement – The personal statement is limited to 1,000 words or less in APA format. It should describe your professional goals and address (1) why you are pursuing your DNP, (2) how the degree will enhance your future professional roles and activities, and (3) ways that graduate education will help you achieve your career goals. The personal statement must contain clear evidence that the applicant has read the [DNP Program Outcomes](#) and incorporated them into the statement.
 - c. Scholarly Writing Sample – This must be single or first author in APA format.

- d. [Government-issued Photo ID](#) – Provide a color copy of your driver’s license or passport.
- e. [RN License Verification](#) – Provide verification of current, unencumbered licensure from your state board of nursing website. A copy of your license is not sufficient.
- f. [National Certification](#) (if applicable)

3. Recommendations

- a. Three professional/academic recommendations are required with at least one academic recommendation preferred. *Family and friends are not appropriate to use for recommendations.*
- b. After you have obtained permission to use someone as a reference, enter their name and email address into your application. Send the [Graduate Nursing Recommendation Form](#) to each reference (we recommend you enter your name and the program information before sending).
- c. References will receive an email from Indiana State Admissions with a link to upload the completed form. **References only need to complete the form. A formal letter is not required.**

4. Prerequisites

- a. Statistics – Applicants must earn a minimum grade of “B” in a three credit hour graduate-level statistics course at an approved institution.
- b. Nursing Research – Applicants must earn a minimum grade of “B” in a three credit hour graduate-level nursing research course completed at an approved institution.
- c. Official transcripts must show courses completed or in progress.

5. Second Tier of Required Program Materials - If offered program admission, you must upload the second tier of required program materials to your application by the deadline included in your program admission offer.

- a. [Criminal Background Check](#) - The background check must be completed via Castlebranch using the Indiana State code (see above link). The full completed check must be uploaded to the university application.
- b. [Nursing Program Immunization Record](#) – All sections of this form must be filled out and signed on page two by a healthcare provider. Submitting other documentation in lieu of this form is not sufficient.
- c. [Proof of Current Healthcare Provider level CPR Certification](#)
- d. [Post-Baccalaureate Clinical Hour Verification](#) – Submit one form for each institution with post-baccalaureate hours earned.

All students must maintain compliance with the [Student Nursing Health Policy](#) throughout the program.

Application Timeline

Applications for the Doctor of Nursing Practice (Post-Master’s) program are accepted on a continual basis. The Program Coordinator shares **completed** applications with the Admissions Committee. Applicants are evaluated on a competitive basis. Please allow 4-6 weeks for notification of your admission decision.

*A video or in-person interview may be required.

All applicants will be notified of their admission decision via the email address provided on their application.

****Students offered admission into the program are required to accept their seat by submitting a non-refundable \$100.00 seat fee by the deadline set by the committee.**

Evaluation Process

Applicants to the Post-Master's DNP are evaluated on a competitive basis. Optimal candidate scoring is based on:

- Completed application
- Master's degree in nursing
- GPA
- Excellent, compelling, and clear goals that intersect closely with [DNP program outcomes](#) and are well-written with originality and creativity
- High ratings on recommendation forms
- RN experience
- Leadership roles in healthcare
- Community service involvement
- Scholarly work

*Note: Admission decisions are made by a committee of School of Nursing faculty utilizing a scoring rubric that incorporates the aforementioned elements.