



Academic Notes

ACADEMIC NOTES PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Below is the publication schedule for the electronic copy of *Academic Notes*. All submissions for inclusion in *Academic Notes* are due in the Office of Academic Affairs no later than 11:00 a.m. on the Deadline for Items date shown below. Submissions must be in hard copy along with an email, zip drive, or CD with the same information. The electronic version must be formatted either in Word with pages with signatures scanned and inserted as a picture OR PDF saved as text and image. (Do NOT send PDF just saved as an image.) Information submitted to *Academic Notes* that is not accompanied by an electronic version or that is incomplete or unusable will be returned to the appropriate office. *Academic Notes* is available using Acrobat Reader at http://www.indstate.edu/academicaffairs/academic_notes.htm

If you have questions, please contact Yvonne Russell in Academic Affairs, extension 3662.

ACADEMIC NOTES PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

FALL 2014

<u>Deadline for Items</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
September 24	October 6
October 1	October 13
October 8	October 20

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GRADUATE PROPOSALS

PROGRAM REVISIONS

**** The College of Nursing, Health and Human Services would like to retract the last proposal for the Nursing Practice, Doctor of, in Academic Notes of 9/22/14. This is a revised proposal with a new effective term.**

COLLEGE OF NURSING, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES: Advanced Practice Nursing

**Nursing Practice, Doctor of
CIP Code: 51.3818 Major Code: 9464**

Brief Summary:

Elimination of language from curriculum for DNP that requires 85 hours for baccalaureate prepared nurses to achieve the DNP degree. The program has been admitting only post-master's RN's since admitting its first class in 2010. All students are held to the 85 credit hour post BS requirement at degree attainment as per the ICHE document. The 85 credit hour post baccalaureate language, limits the progression of post-master's nurse applicants who completed master's programs with fewer than 46 graduate credits. When 46 or less credits are part of a master's program the student is unable to fulfill the 85 credit hours requirement unless they are enrolled in courses outside the program requirements to make up the difference. The DNP program has a minimum of 39 credit hours for degree completion. Up to a maximum of nine hours may be transferred in to apply toward the 39 credit hour minimum.

Requiring all post-master's applicants to achieve 85 post baccalaureate hours has led to an inability to remain competitive with other programs and recruit graduates from ISU. Indiana has eight DNP programs physically located in the state and many other online programs that market to perspective students. ISU requires all post-master's applicants to take more credit hours, than seven of the eight programs. The 85 post-baccalaureate requirement currently in place forces students to take more than the already rigorous 39 credits rendering the program unable to compete with other entities. Removing this requirement for applicants and students who have already attained a graduate degree from an accredited nursing school of nursing will help us to sustain and increase enrollment.

The second issue to be addressed is the statement that does not allow for transfer of credit by applicants to the DNP program. The program requires 39 credits and the inability of students to transfer in credits within the guidelines of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies impacts student progression and is not consistent with other graduate and doctoral programs within the University.

Rationale for Change:

There is a need for clarification of language for post-master's prepared nursing applicants that desire to obtain their degree at ISU and specifically for entrance into the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Revised language will allow students from ISU and other institutions to gain entry into the DNP program at ISU in a seamless fashion. Currently, all applicants for admission to the DNP program are prepared at the master's level. Language within the approved Indiana Center for Higher Education DNP proposal (2009) included a Baccalaureate prepared RN to DNP degree attainment path because this was being contemplated at that time. To date, zero BS to DNP applicants have been considered, nor does the application process allow them consideration for admission. The original vague language created confusion that may discourage applications from students with a master's degree consisting of less than 48 credits. In addition, there is not an allowance for transfer credit. This greatly limits the pool of applicants in an already competitive field of programs offered in Indiana. As the 6th ranked on-line graduate nursing program in the United States we continue to strive to accept the best and the brightest students and facilitate a seamless transition from undergraduate to master's level education and promote doctoral level preparation (Graduateprograms.com, 2014).

It is proposed that the following language be removed from the DNP degree requirements; *the DNP program requires 85 post baccalaureate graduate credit hours, and students must complete a minimum of 39 credit hours at ISU.* In addition, removal of the requirement that *students entering the program prior to 2015 must have a completed master's degree to be eligible to enroll in the DNP program* be removed as it is no longer relevant for a post-master's only DNP program. Requested changes are a direct result of the abandoned efforts at the national level to strictly limit FNP practice entry to doctorally prepared nurse practitioners. This national change of course has been described in the white paper titled *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education (2008)* published by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

The new language does not affect the curriculum or the rigor of the program but clarifies language thereby more accurately depicting the programs past, present, and future practices.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

Nursing Practice, Doctor of
CIP Code: 51.3818 Major Code: 9464

(39 credits)

The DNP program consists of 39 credit hours post-master's degree. Students entering the program must have completed a master's degree from an accredited school of nursing to be eligible to enroll in the DNP program and may apply a maximum 700 hours of formal supervised clinical hours from their master's degree toward the degree requirement. Consistent with other DNP programs and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty there is no dissertation requirement. The program does include a rigorous scholarly project with a focus on the scholarship of research application for credit hours.

Core Courses (12 credits):

- AHS 612 - Epidemiology 3 credits
- APN 822 - Organizational Informatics 3 credits
- APN 825 - Analytical Methods 3 credits
- APN 842 - Health Policy Leadership 3 credits

Cognate Courses (9 credits):

- APN 810 - Community Health Planning 3 credits
- APN 840 - Culturally Competent Care 3 credits
- APN 850 - Rural/Underserved Residency 3 credits

Guided Elective (3 credits):

Nursing education (curriculum, texts, methods) or nursing administration (finance) 3 credits

Nursing Scholarship of Practice Courses (15 credits):

- APN 891 – DNP Scholarly Project I 3 credits
- APN 892 – DNP Scholarly Project II 3 credits
- APN 893 – DNP Scholarly Project III 3 credits
- APN 894 – DNP Scholarly Project IV 3 credits
- APN 895 – DNP Capstone Scholarly Project 3 credits

Effective term: Spring 2015