Our nation’s complex healthcare environment has created a great demand for nurse leaders who are innovative, have specialized knowledge and advanced nursing practice expertise.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a doctoral degree that prepares nurses for the highest level of nursing practice. The DNP preparation includes enhanced leadership, evidence-based clinical and management knowledge and skills, development of advanced competencies for transforming healthcare delivery and practice for quality and value.

Upon completion of the program graduates will be able to design, implement, manage, and evaluate healthcare delivery systems and provide the highest level of leadership for their specialty.

Why you should pursue your advanced degree at the UT Health Science Center.

The UT Health Science Center San Antonio offers you a top-rated DNP program with exceptional faculty and considerable resources of a major academic health center, enabling you to enjoy leadership training, clinical and community experience, as well as opportunities for interdisciplinary research not afforded by many other nursing programs. The HSC exhibits nationally recognized faculty, cutting-edge technology, extramural grants, financial aid and many other resources. Our information technology, library holdings, clinical laboratories’ equipment, and space for academic and practice initiatives are among the best in the country.

Admission Criteria:

This program is designed for applicants who hold a Master’s degree in Nursing. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio offers two tracks: Nurse Practitioner Leadership and Executive Administrative Management.

A comprehensive approach will be used to determine admission to the DNP program. The DNP faculty will review each application individually and will consider the following: personal statement, graduate course work and degree(s), scores on the TOEFL (if applicable), letters of reference, resume or curriculum vitae, and all other required documentation submitted with the online application.

Factors included for consideration for admission to the DNP program:

- **Education**
  Master’s in Nursing from a program that is nationally accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Applicants pending completion of an accredited Master’s program prior to the term of application may still apply.

- **Nursing License**
  Current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the state where clinical/practicum hours and scholarly inquiry project will occur.

- **Advance Practice Certification**
  Applicants to the Nurse Practitioner Leadership must hold national certification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or eligibility to sit for certification. Applicants without national certification will be individually evaluated.

- **Scholastic Achievement**
  Grade Point Average of a “B” (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher.

- **Official transcripts from ALL institutions**
  Official transcript(s) from each post-secondary institution attended are required, regardless of whether or not a degree was earned. Applicants who have completed college-level coursework outside of the United States must have all international coursework evaluated, which can be completed by sending transcripts to a foreign credential evaluation service. The below evaluation service is recommended:
  World Education Services, Inc.
  http://www.wes.org
  212-966-6311

- **Required course**
  Basic math statistics course

- **Letters of Reference**
  Applicants must provide three letters of professional reference attesting to the applicant’s qualifications for doctoral education in nursing.

- **Resume or curriculum vitae**
  Submit a current resume or curriculum vitae.

- **Interview**
  Applicants may be invited for a personal interview.

- **International applicants - standardized test**
  International applicants must have one official copy of a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score. TOEFL scores are to be no more than two years old. A minimum score of 550 is required on paper examination; 250 on computer-based examination; or 68 on the internet based examination.

It is recommended that applicants who are applying to the Executive Administrative Management track have a Master’s degree in Administrative Management or equivalent.

“Nursing for me is as much a life commitment as a career.”
Supplemental Application
Upon submission of the DNP application, qualified applicants will be invited to complete a supplemental application. The supplemental application will require applicants to provide the following information:

Statement of Goals and Interests:
The DNP faculty is interested in learning about applicants’ background and preparation for doctoral (DNP) study. It is required for applicants to write a 1200 character, double spaced essay/goal statement addressing each of the following items:

• How has your previous education and experiences prepared you for doctoral study?
• What personal, clinical and/or academic strengths and weaknesses do you have that may affect your doctoral studies?
• Explain how earning a doctoral degree will allow you to achieve your career plan/vision.

Assessment of Course Credit and Clinical/Practicum Hours
DNP students must meet a minimum of 1,000 hours of advanced clinical/practicum experience post BSN to DNP. To facilitate review of direct and indirect hours from masters and/or post masters programs, applicants must complete the clinical assessment form in the supplemental application. Once accepted to the DNP program, the printed copy of this form can be used to send to previous educational programs for verification of hours. Up to 6 hours of previous course work may be transferred into the program.

Once conditional admission is granted, the following items are required:

• Current CPR Certification (American Heart Association)
• Current Immunizations (see the School of Nursing website under “newly admitted students” for details on immunizations http://nursing.uthscsa.edu/students/index.asp)
• Current health insurance
• Pass criminal background check
• Ability to obtain professional liability insurance

Technical Requirements
The School of Nursing considers the Internet communication link an essential learning resource for doctoral students. DNP students will be required to have a home computer, printer and Internet service provider that has high speed broadband Internet access. Applicants are expected to have minimum computer competency, which includes use of Internet, email and proficiency of Microsoft Office.

Application and Deadlines

Application
All applicants must submit through NursingCAS, the application, transcripts, references, resume/curriculum vitae and payment.
Applicants must complete and submit the application by March 30, 2012 for fall entrance.
Admissions to the DNP program occur once each year in the fall semester. See website for further admission information.