The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Executive Leadership, offered by Edgewood College, is in indirect care and emphasizes the highest level of instruction to prepare experts for advanced nursing leadership roles. Our graduates will bring the best practices to health services and care systems management, evidence-based care, and translational research methods. Further preparation in public health and health policy, epidemiology, healthcare finance, informatics, and quality management provide depth and breadth to a curriculum that culminates with a capstone project and a customized residency experience.

- Complete your post-master's degree in just 2 years
- Complete all courses entirely online
- Degree can be done part-time or full-time
- Enroll each fall, spring, and summer semester

Eligibility Requirements //
- Graduated with a baccalaureate degree from a nursing program accredited by a national nursing accreditation body and received at least a 3.3 GPA on a 4.0 scale from an accredited master's degree program
- Completed a graduate statistics course within three years of the program's start date
- Hold a current registered nursing license in the United States
- Practiced for a minimum of one year as a Registered Nurse in the United States (preferred)
- Will complete an interview with the program Graduate Admissions and Progression Committee
- BSN-prepared candidates may be considered for the DNP program by first successfully completing the MSN degree

*BSN-prepared candidates with a master's degree in a discipline other than nursing may also be considered for admission. If a candidate's master's degree is not an MSN, his/her program of study will be evaluated for coursework that prepares him/her for DNP study. Non-MSN candidates may be asked to submit a portfolio of professional practice that highlights their knowledge, skills, and application of the MSN Essentials (i.e., research, health care policy, ethics, role development, foundations of nursing, human diversity and social issues, and health promotion). These students are often required to enroll in additional coursework prior to beginning the DNP program.

Application Process //
- Complete DNP application
- Official post-secondary transcripts from all institutions attended
- Reason for Study Essay
  » Express your professional objectives and how Edgewood College's DNP Program will contribute toward your role as a nursing leader
  » Describe an issue related to quality of practice or healthcare system improvement you are considering for your DNP project (preliminary ideas)
- Three letters of recommendation
  » Two letters must come from nursing colleagues (at least one from a supervisor) that can address potential competency in graduate level studies
One letter should come from a former faculty member from your MSN program who is qualified to evaluate academic competence for doctoral study

- Curriculum vitae or resume
- A scholarly writing sample that best exemplifies your writing and composition skills (this can be a sample from your master’s program)
- Proof of licensure (required) and certification (optional)
- International students must submit TOEFL scores. Learn more.

Once applicants successfully complete the online application, they will receive an email request to submit additional materials (transcripts, essay, letters of recommendation, resume, and licenses) directly to Edgewood College.

**Note application process exception for candidates who already have an Edgewood College MSN:** Those who have earned an MSN from Edgewood College within the past 3 years and received at least a 3.3 GPA are guaranteed admission into the DNP program upon application. If a candidate has not met the minimum 3.3 GPA requirement, he/she must apply and meet for an interview to be considered for admittance.

Prior to beginning the DNP program’s residency requirements, students will be required to complete a health form, criminal background check, and proof of a current RN license from the state/country they plan to complete their residency.

**Application Deadlines:** August 1st for Fall, January 1st for Spring, May 1st for Summer

**Courses //**

- Capstone Writing A, B, C
- Applied Research Methods and Evidence Based Practice
- Healthcare Service and Clinical Quality
- Healthcare Finance and Regulatory Environments
- Population Health and Health Policy
- Health Systems Informatics
- Leadership Residency 1 *

Total credits: 30-33 (varies with experience and elective options)

*Residency 1 & 2: students are required to complete 1000 hours of post-baccalaureate residency practice. Up to 500 hours earned during a master’s program may be applied to this total.

**Taken for variable credits if needed.

*A graduate statistics course completed in the last three years is strongly recommended before admission, but is absolutely required by the end of the first semester in the DNP program (unless a graduate statistics course was successfully completed as part of a master’s degree conferred within the last three years)

All DNP Graduates may be prepared to sit for national specialty certifications in several options below. Additional individual review and study will be necessary for successful completion of any of these exams:

- Nurse Executive (NE-BC), or Nurse Executive, Advanced (NEA-BC) as determined by the American nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Informatics certification
- Certified Nurse Manager & Leader (CNML), or Certified Executive Nursing Practice (CENP) as determined by the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE)

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Edgewood College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, 202-887-6791.

To learn more about School of Nursing advanced degree options or to complete an application, please visit: www.edgewood.edu/academics/schools/henry-predolin-school-of-nursing/executive leadership or call Janna Boehm at 608.663.2232.

“My DNP education at Edgewood College expanded my thinking from the bedside and organizational perspective to a broad population health, policy and research view. I use my DNP knowledge and skills daily as I consider nursing practice and programing, quality improvement and leading others. The Edgewood program is supportive of working adults with professors who care about your professional interests and individual development. The program is a journey of personal, scholarly and professional growth which made me a better nursing leader.”

Karil Walther DNP, RN NEA-BC
RN Director of Clinical Support for Ambulatory Operations at UW Health

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