

Master of Science in Nursing Programs

CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Graduate Office
Phone: 814-393-2337
Fax: 814-393-2722

Graduate Office
Phone: 814-732-2856
Fax: 814-732-2611

Application Procedures and Materials

Admission into the graduate nursing programs is competitive. An applicant meeting all of the program requirements is not guaranteed admission into the program. Notification of admission status is by the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office per the recommendations of the MSN Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee, comprised of graduate nursing faculty from both universities. An application is considered “complete” when the following application materials are in the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office:

- ✓ A complete application packet (see below)
- ✓ An interview

A Complete Application Packet Includes the Following:

- ✓ Completed online application form
- ✓ Non-refundable application fee—payable at the time of online application submission
- ✓ Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended
- ✓ Two recommendation forms
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ Copy of registered nurse license in the state where the student plans to complete clinical practicum
- ✓ A 1-2 page personal statement describing your understanding of the family nurse practitioner role and your goals for practice in that role.

Application instructions can be found at the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Website:
<http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/index.html>

Mail all gathered materials not otherwise submitted online in one envelope to: Graduate Studies Office, Clarion University, 840 Wood St; Clarion, PA 16214. All documents become the property of Clarion University and Edinboro University and will not be returned or duplicated for any purpose outside of the universities.

Interview

Upon receipt of the materials, the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office forwards the complete packet to the members of the Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee. Applicants will be contacted by the committee chair, or designee, to set up an interview with the committee. **Interviews are conducted online or by phone during the month of October or until spaces are filled.**

Application Deadlines

MSN Students are only admitted to the fall semester. To be fully considered for the limited number of seats in our competitive nursing program, all materials must be in Clarion’s Graduate Office by October 1st prior to the fall start date for any given year. Clarion University operates on a rolling admissions basis which means that applications may be submitted and reviewed any time prior to the deadline. It is recommended that applications be submitted far enough in advance of the deadline to insure ‘complete’ status. Applications received after the October 1st deadline are only considered **if the fall class has not already been filled**. Otherwise those applications are held for review the next October.

Applicants with successful interviews who meet the criteria for admission are accepted on a “space available” basis and will be notified by December 15th. In the event that no spaces are available, an otherwise qualified applicant may be placed on a waiting list for the upcoming fall admission or for the following fall admission.

Applications to the Post-Master's Certificate Program will be considered at any time. The applicant will be contacted to arrange an interview with the Program Coordinator. Admission is based on qualifications and space availability.

Required Materials

Applicants must submit **all** of the following documentation, in the required format, by the appropriate deadline:

- (1) **Online application form and fee**
- (2) **Transcripts of all Higher Education Coursework**—Submit an official transcript from each college or university attended as an undergraduate and graduate student, regardless of whether or not you earned a degree. If applying to the MSN/FNP program, there must be evidence of earning a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an ACEN- or CCNE-accredited program with a minimum quality-point average (QPA) of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants to the post-master's certificate program and the second MSN degree program must show evidence of a minimum QPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Post-master's certificate applicants and second MSN applicants must submit official transcripts of undergraduate and graduate coursework. *Second master's applicants should submit course descriptions and/or course syllabi of the courses they believe will substitute for courses in this MSN curriculum.*

Note: Some universities participate in a secure electronic submission program to submit official transcripts. If this is not available, official transcripts will be issued from colleges/universities in sealed envelopes with the seal of the university and the signature of the registrar on the outside of the envelopes. These transcripts must be sealed by the registrar and remain sealed until their arrival in the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office. If a seal is broken, we will request another transcript from you. *Graduates of Clarion and Edinboro Universities need not submit a copy of the undergraduate transcript.*
- (3) **Recommendation forms**—Submit **two** recommendation forms from professional colleagues (registered nurses preferred) with first-hand knowledge to assess the majority of behaviors on the recommendation form. Use only the specified forms. ACCESS INFORMATION must be completed. Non-waiver of right of access is not prejudicial to the application. Forms can be downloaded and submitted with your application materials or electronically according to directions at this site: <http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/recommendations/index.html>
- (4) **Professional experience**—Submit a resume describing your professional experience. Program admission is limited to individuals who have one year of recent full-time clinical practice or two years of part-time clinical practice (2,000 hours). **Note that this is a *minimum* requirement.**
- (5) **Evidence of competency in statistics**—Applicants must show evidence of completion in the past 10 years of a college-level statistics course with a grade of "C" or better. Professional experience will be considered.
- (6) **Evidence of competency in pathophysiology**—A recent (< 5 years) pathophysiology course is highly recommended but not required.
- (7) **Current nursing license**—Submit a copy of your registered nurse license for the state where you will be completing clinical practicum experiences. The license must be active and free of restrictions. Due to state authorization requirements, we are currently restricted to clinical experiences taking place in Pennsylvania, Ohio, or New York.
- (8) **Essay**—As part of the application packet, provide a 1-2 page personal statement describing your understanding of the family nurse practitioner role and your goals for practice in that role.
- (9) **Interview**—Applicants are required to complete interviews with members of the MSN Admissions Committee. Applicants will be notified of available dates and instructions for the interview.