

Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate / Emergency Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program

Cohort: FNPC-ENPC 18



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Program Description

The Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate (FNPC)/Emergency Nurse Practitioner Certificate (ENPC) Program (Post-Master’s) was developed for registered nurses with a master’s (or higher) degree in nursing or a health-related specialty who wish to expand their nursing practice to the role as an FNP/ENP. The FNPC/ENPC program develops clinicians who can manage care and participate in system change through identification of best practice in the care of the family as well as clinicians who can manage care and participate in system change through identification of best practice in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings, and across the lifespan. Graduates of this program will increase their contribution to healthcare through the knowledge and skills developed in this program.

This program is a five-semester, 45 credit, primarily-online post-master’s certificate program designed to allow students to continue to work as registered nurses in their communities while attending school and completing 960 clinical contact hours (540 FNP, 420 ENP).

Academic Model. The curriculum blends asynchronous online delivery with a requirement that students visit the Utah campus for one week during the semesters when they are in courses with a clinical component, for skills acquisition and skills mastery.

The *Domains and Core Competencies* (National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF), 2012), the *Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs, 4th edition* (National

Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education, 2012) and *Practice Standards for the Emergency Nurse Practitioner Specialty* (AAENP, 2018) were used to frame the requirements of the FNPC/ENPC program. The program of study includes courses in advanced physical assessment, advanced pharmacology, and advanced pathophysiology. The program also includes content in health promotion and disease prevention, and differential diagnosis and disease management. The program of study also includes courses in care of individuals with cardiovascular, pulmonary, infectious disease, immunology, integumentary, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, psychiatric, environmental, toxicology, traumatic, renal, genitourinary, reproductive health, endocrine, neurological, and head, eye, ear, nose, and throat presentations. The program also includes content in urgent and emergent skills, and differential diagnosis and disease management.

Successful graduates are eligible to sit for the Family Nurse Practitioner certification exam offered by either the American Association of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) or the American Nurses Credentialing Center. This program does not lead to a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

The FNP portion of the FNPC/ENPC program is committed to the development of the nursing professional who can:

1. Assume a family nurse practitioner role in a variety of health care settings
2. Assess, diagnose and manage common acute and chronic primary health care problems of individuals and families
3. Identify the epidemiologic roots of health problems affecting family/community systems
4. Evaluate the impact of environmental stressors on individual, family and community health
5. Design and implement health promotion and illness prevention strategies based on clinical evidence and best practice literature
6. Demonstrate analytical methodologies for the evaluation of clinical practice and the application of scientific evidence
7. Collaborate with interprofessional teams necessary to improve clinical care for populations of clients

The ENP portion of the FNPC/ENPC program is committed to the development of the nursing professional who meets the 42 practice standards listed by AAENP (2018): Overall, the graduate will be able to:

1. Screen, assess and stabilize individuals who are critically ill, and manage crisis and disasters
2. Prioritize differential diagnoses, interpret findings, apply harm reduction principles, and use evidence-based practice.
3. Perform diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, prescribe pharmaceuticals, collaborate with other professionals, manage multiple patients, alter plans of care, resuscitate, manage pain and sedation – all based on best practice evidence.
4. Plan for and initiate patient disposition from admission to discharge, including education for discharge, collaborating with patient, family, and other professionals.

5. Integrate professional, legal, and ethical principles into care including documentation, cultural competence, interventions for at-risk and vulnerable individuals, and adherence to ethical standards.

Admissions Requirements:

- A master's (or higher) degree in nursing from an accredited institution (or foreign equivalent).
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- At least one year of clinical experience is preferred
- An applicant must hold a current unencumbered RN license in her/her state of residence.

Program Outline

Course Code & Title	Credits
Nurse Practitioner Core Courses (4 courses, 12 credits required):	
NUR 635 Advanced Pharmacology	3
NUR 654 Advanced Health Assessment	3
NUR 656 Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NUR 740 Roles, Leadership, & Ethics	3
Nurse Practitioner Required Credits:	12
Family Nurse Practitioner Courses (6 courses, 18 credits/540 clinical clock hours required):	
FNP 710 FNP Practicum I: Primary Care & Prevention (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3
FNP 711 FNP Focus I: Primary Care & Prevention (Didactic)	3
FNP 720 FNP Practicum II: Adult & Geriatric (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3
FNP 721 FNP Focus II: Adult & Geriatrics (Didactic)	3
FNP 730 FNP Practicum III: Women & Children (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3
FNP 731 FNP Focus III: Women & Children (Didactic)	3
FNP Required Credits:	18
Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Courses (6 courses, 15 credits/420 clinical clock hours required):	
ENP 712 ENP Practicum I (Clinical) (120 clinical clock hours)	2
ENP 713 ENP Focus I (Didactic)	3
ENP 722 ENP Practicum II (Clinical) (120 clinical clock hours)	2
ENP 723 ENP Focus II (Didactic)	3
ENP 732 ENP Practicum III (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3
ENP 733 ENP Focus III (Didactic)	2
ENP Required Credits:	15
Total Program Required Credits:	
	45

Program Calendar

(Semesters in **Blue** include required on-site class sessions)

Semester	Course	Credits	On-site Dates
Semester 1 Summer 2026	NUR 635 Advanced Pharmacology	3	<i>Required Online Synchronous Session</i>
	NUR 654 Advanced Health Assessment	3	
	NUR 656 Advanced Pathophysiology	3	
	Semester Totals:		9
Semester 2 Fall 2026	FNP 710 FNP Practicum I: Primary Care & Prevention (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3	3 days on-site
	FNP 711 FNP Focus I: Primary Care & Prevention (Didactic)	3	
	NUR 740 Roles, Leadership, & Ethics	3	
	Semester Totals:		9
Semester 3 Winter 2027	ENP 712 ENP Practicum I (Clinical) (120 clinical clock hours)	2	3 days on-site
	ENP 713 ENP Focus I (Didactic)	3	
	FNP 730 FNP Practicum III: Women & Children (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3	3 days on-site
	FNP 731 FNP Focus III: Women & Children (Didactic)	3	
	Semester Totals:		11
Semester 4 Summer 2027	ENP 722 ENP Practicum II (Clinical) (120 clinical clock hours)	2	3 days on-site
	ENP 723 ENP Focus II (Didactic)	3	
	FNP 720 FNP Practicum II: Adult & Geriatric (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3	3 days on-site
	FNP 721 FNP Focus II: Adult & Geriatrics (Didactic)	3	
	Semester Totals:		11
Semester 5 Fall 2027	ENP 732 ENP Practicum III (Clinical) (180 clinical clock hours)	3	3 days on-site
	ENP 733 ENP Focus III (Didactic)	2	
	Semester Total:		5
Total Program Required Credits:		45	
<i>Four-year deadline for program completion from start of program.</i>			

**Course includes pre-requisite and/or co-requisite requirement(s). Refer to course description below.

Course Descriptions

Nurse Practitioner Core Courses

NUR 635 Advanced Pharmacology **(3 credits; Online)**

This course is designed to provide the advanced practice nurse with evidence-based knowledge for the safe and appropriate pharmacotherapy in various settings and for diverse populations across the lifespan. Basic and advanced pharmacology principles will be applied to the prescribing and monitoring of agents/drugs utilized in health promotion and the treatment of conditions commonly encountered, including client education and legal and ethical considerations.

NUR 654 Advanced Health Assessment **(3 credits; Online)**

The course will focus on advanced physical assessment, communication, and diagnostic reasoning skills for the advanced practice nurse to care for individuals and families across the lifespan. Skills obtained in this course will be used to analyze health and alterations in health for individuals and families and prepare the student for independent practice.

NUR 656 Advanced Pathophysiology **(3 credits; Online)**

This course is a system-focused pathophysiology course that includes advanced concepts of functioning as it relates the family nurse practitioner's ability to manage illness across the lifespan. Special attention will be given to advanced concepts that correlate with clinical decisions related to diagnosis and therapeutic management. Genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors will also be included as they relate to the epidemiology of disease.

NUR 740 Roles, Leadership, & Ethics **(3 credits; Online)**

This course examines principles of leadership and role development of the advanced practice nurse and incorporates ethical decision-making, interprofessional collaboration, and navigating evidence-based system changes. The exploration of leadership models, styles, strategies, and roles will provide a foundation for establishing professional leadership goals. Examining practice regulations; professionalism and ethical practices; and interprofessional collaborations will provide a multi-dimensional view of the role and contributions of the advanced practice nurse to safe, high-quality, and cost-effective healthcare.

ENP Courses

ENP 712 ENP Practicum I (Clinical) **(2 credits; 3 days on-site)**

This course is the clinical companion to ENP 713 (Didactic). This clinical practicum will focus on caring for individuals across the lifespan with cardiovascular, pulmonary, infectious disease, immunology, oncology, and integumentary presentations in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. In clinical settings, students will apply knowledge of advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacotherapeutics, and non-pharmacotherapeutics while considering differential diagnoses. Treatment plans will include genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences, laboratory findings, diagnostic studies,

and procedures. Students will demonstrate the ability to collaborate and communicate with patients and the healthcare team, and professionalism in the role of an emergency nurse practitioner. (120 clinical clock hours)

ENP 713 ENP Focus I (Didactic) (3 credits; Online)

This course is the didactic companion to ENP 712 (Clinical). The course will focus on care of individuals across the lifespan with cardiovascular, pulmonary, infectious disease, immunology, oncology, and integumentary presentations in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. Students will be introduced to development of a differential diagnosis list, decision-making processes, patient management, and patient disposition, all while considering professional, ethical, and legal aspects. Content includes evidence-based guidelines for care, pathophysiology and pharmacology, and genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences.

ENP 722 ENP Practicum II (Clinical) (2 credits; 3 days on-site)

This course is the clinical companion to ENP 723 (Didactic). This clinical practicum will focus on caring for individuals across the lifespan with gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, psychiatric, environmental, hematology, toxicology, and traumatic presentations in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. In clinical settings, students will apply knowledge of advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacotherapeutics, and non-pharmacotherapeutics while considering differential diagnoses. Treatment plans will include genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences, laboratory findings, diagnostic studies, and procedures. Students will demonstrate the ability to collaborate and communicate with patients and the healthcare team, and professionalism in the role of an emergency nurse practitioner. (120 clinical clock hours)

ENP 723 ENP Focus II (Didactic) (3 credits; Online)

This course is the didactic companion to ENP 722 (Clinical). The course will focus on care of individuals across the lifespan with gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, psychiatric, environmental, hematology, toxicology, and traumatic presentations in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. Students will be introduced to development of a differential diagnoses list, decision-making processes, patient management, and patient disposition, all while considering professional, ethical, and legal aspects. Content includes evidence-based guidelines for care, pathophysiology and pharmacology, and genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences.

ENP 732 ENP Practicum III (Clinical) (3 credits; 3 days on-site)

This course is the clinical companion to ENP 730 (Didactic). This clinical practicum will focus on caring for individuals across the lifespan with renal, genitourinary, reproductive, endocrine, neurologic, and head, eye, ear, nose, and throat system presentation in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. In clinical settings, students will apply knowledge of advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacotherapeutics, and non-pharmacotherapeutics while considering differential diagnoses. Treatment plans will include genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences, laboratory findings, diagnostic studies, and procedures. Students will demonstrate the ability to collaborate and communicate

with patients and the healthcare team, and professionalism in the role of an emergency nurse practitioner. (180 clinical clock hours)

ENP 733 ENP Focus III (Didactic) (2 credits; Online)

This course is the didactic companion to ENP 732 (Clinical). The course will focus on care of individuals across the lifespan with renal, genitourinary, reproductive, endocrine, neurologic, and head, eye, ear, nose, and throat system presentation in ambulatory, urgent, and emergent settings. Students will be introduced to development of a differential diagnose list, decision-making processes, patient management, and patient disposition, all while considering professional, ethical, and legal aspects. Content includes evidence-based guidelines for care, pathophysiology and pharmacology, and genetic, age, gender, and cultural influences.

FNP Courses

FNP 710 FNP Practicum I: Primary Care & Prevention (Clinical) (3 credits; 3 days on-site)

This course is the first clinical practicum in a series of three practicum courses in the FNP Program that prepares the student for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. The three practicum courses should show patient interactions across the lifespan including pediatrics, adult, geriatrics and women's health. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner. (180 clinical clock hours) *Pre-requisites: NUR 635, NUR 654, NUR 656*

FNP 711 FNP Focus I: Primary Care & Prevention (Didactic) (3 credits; Online)

This course is the first clinical didactic in a series of three clinical didactic courses in the FNP Program that prepares the student for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. The three didactic courses will include lifespan care including pediatrics, adult, geriatrics and women's health. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner.

FNP 720 FNP Practicum II: Adult & Geriatrics (Clinical) (3 credits; 3 days on-site)

This course is the second of three practicum courses in the FNP Program that prepares the student for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. The three practicum courses should show patient interactions across the lifespan including pediatrics, adult, geriatrics and women's health. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner. (180 clinical clock hours) *Pre-requisites: NUR 635, NUR 654, NUR 656*

FNP 721 FNP Focus II: Adult & Geriatrics (Didactic) (3 credits; Online)

This course is the second clinical didactic in a series of three clinical didactic courses in the FNP Program that prepares the student for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. The three didactic courses will include lifespan care including pediatrics, adult, geriatrics and women's health. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner.

FNP 730 FNP Practicum III: Women & Children (Clinical) (3 credits; 3 days on-site)

This course is the third practicum course in the FNP Program that prepares students for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner. *(180 clinical clock hours) Prerequisites: NUR 635, NUR 654, NUR 656*

FNP 731 FNP Focus III: Women & Children (Didactic) (3 credits; Online)

This course is the third clinical didactic in a series of three clinical didactic courses in the FNP Program that prepares the student for advanced nursing practice as family nurse practitioners. The three didactic courses will include lifespan care including pediatrics, adult, geriatrics and women's health. Students will further their skill development in the primary care of individuals and families across the lifespan with acute and chronic conditions. Students are guided through the application processes for recognition and certification as a family nurse practitioner.