Master’s Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN)

Informational Session
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MEPN Staff

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Agenda for today’s session

• MEPN Program Overview
• Part 1: The MEPN Pre-Licensure Year
• Part 2: The Graduate Specialty Tracks
• Application Process
• Money Matters
• FAQs
• Questions from you
Our School

- Founded in 1951; currently offers BS, MEPN, RN to MS, MS, DNP, & PhD Programs

- Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
History of the MEPN Program

– First cohort started in 2008 with 28 students

– Created to produce highly qualified advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs)

– Fill a need for nursing faculty, clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners, nursing administrators, and advanced public health nurses in Hawaii
Who is it designed for?

- For those who have:
  - A Bachelors degree in a field other than nursing from an accredited institution

- For those who are seeking a:
  - Masters of Science (MS) in Nursing degree
  - An RN License (granted upon passing the NCLEX test)
  - A career as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
MEPN Program: 2 parts

The entire program involves 2 parts:

– 1) An intensive MEPN Pre-Licensure Year
   (12 months duration, starting in August)

– 2) The Graduate Specialty Track
   (# of years it takes for completion varies by specialty)
In the Middle...You Take NCLEX

- **NCLEX**: the RN license examination (a license granted by the State Board of Nursing that allows you to practice in that given state as a Registered Nurse).

- Take NCLEX during the first fall semester of the graduate track
  - Passing the NCLEX is a requirement for graduate specialty track clinical courses.

  - Failure to pass the NCLEX prior to the completion of 1st semester of graduate program will result in a mandatory LOA until NCLEX is passed.
In the End... You Graduate

• License as a Registered Nurse

• MS Degree: Masters of Science in Nursing
We Can Take You There…
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year: What is it like?

- It’s FAST
- Intense year preparing you to be an RN
- Everything our BS program covers in 3 years in only 1 year
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year: Teaching Tools

- Didactic Lectures
- Clinical Rotations
- Simulation/Dry Lab
- Community Outreach
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year Details

- Obligations are 5-6 days/week with lecture and clinical

- Preset courses and clinical rotations

- Clinical hours vary – may include days evening, or nights and weekends, and holidays.

- Flexibility in your schedule is crucial
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year: Clinical Partner Sites

• Past Clinical partner sites include:
  – Queens Medical Center
  – Straub Hospital
  – Kapiolani Medical Center
  – Tripler Army Medical Center
  – Hawaii State Hospital
  – Kahala Nui
  – Pali Momi Medical Center
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year Curriculum: Fall

- N501: Professionalism in Nursing (2 cr)
- N502: Pathophysiology (3 cr)
- N503: Pharmacology for Nursing Practice (3 cr)
- N504: Health Assessment (2 cr)
- N504L: Health Assessment Lab (2 cr)
- N505: Foundations of Nursing Science (2 cr)
- N505L: Foundations of Nursing Science Practice Lab (4 cr)

Total: 18 credits
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year Curriculum: Spring

- N507: Bio-behavioral Health (2 cr)
- N507L: Bio-behavioral Health Lab (2 cr)
- N513: Medical/Surgical Nursing (3 cr)
- N513L: Medical/Surgical Nursing Lab (3 cr)
- N518: Introduction to Community and Public Health Nursing (2 cr)
- N518L: Introduction to Community and Public Health Nursing Lab (3 cr)
- N600: Epidemiology for Advanced Nursing (3 cr)

Total: 18 credits
MEPN Pre-Licensure Year Curriculum: Summer

- N508: Nursing Care of Childbearing Families (2 cr)
- N508L: Nursing Care of Childbearing Families Lab (2 cr)
- N509: Nursing Care of Children & Families (2 cr)
- N509L: Nursing Care of Children & Families Lab (2 cr)
- N517: Clinical Immersion to Nursing Practice (3 cr)
- N517L: Clinical Immersion to Nursing Practice Lab (5 cr)

Total: 16 credits

Note: summer is split between N508/L and N509/L (7 weeks) and N517/L (8 weeks)
Part 2: Graduate Specialty Track

• Begins immediately in the fall semester after completing the pre-licensure year.

• Student must choose their graduate specialty track at the time of application.

• Essential to do research on the various graduate specialty tracks before applying (Switch/add track is extremely difficult).
Part 2: Graduate Specialty Tracks

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Adult/Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (AGNP)
- Advanced Public Health Nursing (APHN)
- Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist (ACNS)
- Nursing Executive Leadership (NEL)- offered every odd pre-licensure start year (ex: 2013, 2015, 2017)
- Dual Nursing Executive Leadership with MBA (NAM)- offered every odd pre-licensure start year (ex: 2013, 2015, 2017)
Nurse Practitioner (NP) & Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist (ACNS) Tracks

- NP: focus is wellness and illness care; primary care; prescriptive authority

- ACNS: focus is hospital acute care; prescriptive authority

- Must be in Hawaii (neighbor islands- ok)
Advanced Public Health Nursing (APHN) Track

• Focus is population health and programming

• Online program; can be out of state or country
MS-Nursing Executive Leadership (NEL) and Dual Degree MBA/MS

• Nursing Executive Leadership track include on-campus and online content in a hybrid format
• Nursing Executive Leadership program conducted in cohort groups
• MBA classes are through the Shidler College of Business and are on-campus and some online
• Must also apply to Shidler for admission to MBA program
• MBA/MS graduates receive two Master’s degrees

*** Only offered every odd pre-licensure start year (2013, 2015, 2017)
Applying to MEPN
Requirements to Apply

• Non-nursing BS/BA completed by July 15th of the year for which you are applying

• Complete the pre-requisite classes by July 15th of the year you start the program

• Have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA
Required Pre-requisite Classes

- Human Anatomy and Physiology I with labs (3+1 semester credits)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology II with labs (3+1 semester credits)
- Intro Microbiology Lecture (3 semester credits, no lab required)
- Introduction to Research Course (3 semester credits)
Pre-requisite Classes

- Can be taken separate from previous degree
- Completed with a C or better
- Must have been completed within the past 7 years.
- May be in process while applying
- On-line prerequisite courses accepted from accredited colleges and universities

* Non UH courses will be evaluated for equivalency
To verify course equivalencies

- UH System: http://www.hawaii.edu/transferdatabase/

- Outside UH http://www.hawaii.edu/odstc/

- MEPN Coordinator: #956-0445
Deadlines & Forms

• **DEADLINE:** February 15th, 11:59 pm, Eastern (Rolling admissions now in effect)

• Deadline is defined as the day your NursingCAS application must be SUBMITTED on the NCAS system.

• Specific items go to:
  – A. Graduate Division
  – B. School of Nursing (through the NursingCAS application system. We will NOT accept paper copies of any application materials).
Applying: Graduate Division

– 1.) Apply online at [http://apply.hawaii.edu/](http://apply.hawaii.edu/)

  • Select **MS-Nursing** as the degree type

– 2.) Application Fee - $100 (subject to change)

– 3.) Send them your official transcripts

**Any UH system transcripts are obtained on your behalf at no charge**
Applying: School of Nursing MEPN

NursingCAS website: www.nursingcas.org
- NursingCAS On-line Application and Fee (Amount: TBD)

- Professional experience information

- Youtube Video (submitted to UH MEPN youtube account)

- Writing Sample Essay (500 words)

- 3 Recommendation Forms (from professional and/or academic reference)

- Reapplicants: Please read instructions on NursingCAS website!
Admission Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications Open</td>
<td>UH Office of Graduate Education: Sept 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NursingCAS 3.0: October 15, 2014, 12:01 am Eastern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>February 15, 2015, 11:59 pm, Eastern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Screening</td>
<td>Rolling admissions</td>
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<td>(Application review will begin once application is deemed complete by the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision Notification</td>
<td>Rolling admissions</td>
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<td>(Dependent on when application has been received and reviewed by ALL admissions committee members - Generally within six to eight weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>Aug 2015</td>
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Money Matters: Pre-Licensure Year

- Pay per credit for every credit taken
- First year tuition is for 52 credits
- ~$48,516 in-state, ~$92,040 out-of-state for 52 credits of coursework for MEPN Pre-Licensure Year (2015-2016 school year)
- Total cost of textbooks (year): approximately $2,000
Money Matters: Specialty Track

• Pay graduate division nursing rates

• Full time is at least 8 credits/semester
  – All rates subject to change
  – $1001/credit in-state (2016 rates)
  – $1896/credit out-of-state (2016 rates)
  – Credits for each specialty vary
Financial Aid

• Fill out a FAFSA Application at
  http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm

• FAFSA Priority Deadline: March 1st

• UH Financial Aid Office awards you aid based what
  FAFSA sends them

• Most students receive Stafford Federal Unsubsidized
  and Grad PLUS loans to cover the first year

• UH Manoa Financial Aid office #: (808) 956-7251
Scholarships

- www.hawaii.edu/fas/scholarships.html

- Nursing School Scholarships available after completing 1 semester of nursing courses

- Most applicants get at least $500 per semester

- You may also seek outside, private scholarships

- Work-study not available in pre-licensure year
Frequently Asked Questions?

- Cumulative GPA = generally, last two years or last 60 to 90 credits of undergraduate career
- Unclassified post-baccalaureate GPA considered? Answer: Yes and No
- No Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Required
- How long does it take to complete entire program? Answer: About 3 to 3.5 years (if studying full-time)

** Reapplying to UH MEPN- Instructions found on NursingCAS website (Please read!)
How Do I Improve My Chances?

• Research the nursing profession and health care
• Research the specialty areas
• Write a compelling writing sample essay
• Articulate clear responses in your youtube video
• Choose your reference writers carefully – Select professional and/or academic references that can speak to your strengths and challenges.
• Give some thought to past leadership activities, volunteer work, or other activities that are consistent with your decision to pursue a career as an advanced practical nurse
Competitive

• Annual # of applications – 300+/year
• Annual admit cohort - 40
  – Approx 13% of applicants admitted.
• Average admit GPA – 3.4
Questions?