GRADUATE PROGRAMS:
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
The Master of Science in Nursing provides opportunities for nurses to acquire an increased depth of knowledge and specialization in a clinical and functional area. The increasing complexity of health care and the public’s expectation regarding health services in West Texas requires nurses who have advanced practice skills and can provide leadership in improving the quality of care. Nurse practitioner graduates critically appraise and use the best evidence to deliver care with optimal outcomes.

MASTER OF SCIENCE NURSE PRACTITIONER STUDIES
Collaborative Nurse Practitioner Studies are available via distance learning. To meet the growing demand for graduate level education for nursing professionals in Texas, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing in collaboration with The University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing and Health Sciences offer the Masters of Science in Nursing and Post-Masters Nurse Practitioner Certificate with a focus in Family, Acute Care, Geriatrics and Pediatrics.

Distance learning is accomplished through HealthNet, Telecommunications Systems, and the World Wide Web, allowing students to remain in their home community to further their education.

• Applicants applying through the collaboration with TTUHSC SON and UT Tyler SON are required to comply with the admission requirements for both universities.

Upon completion of the course requirements, graduates of the master's and post-master's studies are eligible to sit for the following:
• Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB) Exam–PNP
• American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exams –ACNP, GNP, FNP
• American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Exam–FNP

PEDIATRIC
Tamara Gawlik-Bavousett, RN, MSN, C-PNP (2004)
“I chose to be a pediatric nurse practitioner because I have a special desire for the health and well-being of children. The program at TTUHSC offered me flexibility and accessibility to achieve this desire.”

GERIATRIC
Edith Spossey, RN, MSN, GNP-BC (2005)
CEO, Vangard Geriatrics, INC.
“The graduate school of nursing at Texas Tech was a perfect match for me and many of my colleagues who were faced with competing demands on their time, but still had the desire to achieve their professional goals such as I was able to achieve my goal of establishing my own company.”

ACUTE CARE
Kory Mitchell, RN, MSN, APRN, BC, ACNP (2006)
“I believe the acute care nurse practitioner track offered me a concise yet comprehensive learning experience. The clinical portion afforded me the opportunity to tailor my experiences in a way that would best serve me in the future.”

FAMILY
Robert Martinez, RN, MSN, FNP-C (1992)
“I currently have a very successful Community Health Clinic in Lubbock and also work at a busy Urgent Care Clinic. The education I obtained at TTUHSC SON provided a solid foundation for this success.”

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PEDIATRIC
MSN-PNP graduates provide culturally sensitive, comprehensive care for infants and children with common episodic and chronic health problems managed across the continuum of schools, primary care clinics and pediatric offices.

GERIATRIC
MSN-GNP graduates provide culturally sensitive, comprehensive care for elderly adults with common episodic and chronic health problems managed across the continuum of health care and long term care facilities.

ACUTE CARE
MSN-ACNP graduates provide culturally sensitive, comprehensive care for adults with acute, common episodic and chronic health problems managed across the continuum of hospitals and acute care centers.

FAMILY
MSN-FNP graduates are prepared to assume a primary care provider role across the lifespan in a rural agency and other health care settings.
Applicants for Post-Master’s certification must meet the following criteria for full admission:

- Valid RN License
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Successful completion of an undergraduate research and statistics course
- Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in upper division work and all graduate level work
- BLS Certification
- Personal Goals Essay
- Letters of reference (3)
- Documentation of required immunizations
- International Students: appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score

Additional non-academic factors considered

Additional non-academic attributes are also considered in admission decisions. These non-academic attributes include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad,
- Knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- English as a second language
- Socioeconomic status

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student’s admission.

All applicants who receive offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See “Criminal Background Checks” section of the School of Nursing Student Handbook for the School policy. The Health Sciences Center Policy, HSC PO 10.20, is located on the Web Site.

TRANSFER CREDIT

The Department Chair for Nurse Practitioner Studies will review the applicant’s previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Generally, credits earned at an accredited college or university are accepted for transfer credit provided course content is equivalent. A grade below B is not acceptable for transfer credit.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Although the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing is a part of the Texas Tech University System, legally it is a separate institution from Texas Tech University and therefore application for admission must be made directly to the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The School of Nursing application is an online process, apply at www.ttuhsc.edu/son.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Department Chair for Nurse Practitioner Studies
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Graduate Recruitment Office
800.851.8240 / 806.743.2730 ext. 309
www.ttuhsc.edu/son or songrad@ttuhsc.edu

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of TTUHSC.

The School of Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Contact the CCNE at One DuPont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036.