Fort Hays State University
Department of Nursing
Graduate Nursing Program

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
AND
POST-MASTER'S
ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS-complete part I and part II below

NOTICE: Nursing graduate students may enroll in a total of 3 credit hours (one semester) of graduate level nursing courses while finalizing admission to the Graduate School for the Master of Science in Nursing Program. Failure to finalize admission during this semester will result in a hold for future enrollments until admission is completed.

Individuals who are seeking the post Master's certification must notify the Nursing Department Chairperson upon enrollment in the first course towards the certification.

Part I. University Graduate School Requirements

1. Make application to the University Graduate School (Picken Hall-202). This application is online at www.fhsu.edu/gradschl.

2. Provide the Graduate School with an official transcript of all college credit earned prior to admission. Official transcripts must be sent from the college/university Registrar directly to the FHSU Graduate School.

3. Provide scores on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), which can be taken at numerous other colleges/universities. Testing sites in Kansas are listed below. (The MAT is not required for post-master's applicants.)

Atchison	Benedictine College	913-360-7578
Emporia	Emporia State University	620-341-5103
Hays	Fort Hays State University	785-628-4401
Lawrence	University of Kansas	785-864-2768
Manhattan	Kansas State University	785-532-6492
Pittsburg	Pittsburg State University	620-235-4267
Topeka	Washburn University	785-231-1010
Wichita	Friends University	316-295-5824
Wichita	Wichita State University	316-978-5339

For other states or an updated list, please visit: http://www.milleranalogies.com.

4. Obtain two recommendations from employers, former teachers or colleagues. Recommendations must be on the forms provided by the Graduate School online, or can be letters of recommendation on a letterhead paper. www.fhsu.edu/gradschl

5. Provide a printed statement about your professional and personal goals on the form included in the online admission packet from the University Graduate School.

Part II. Department of Nursing-Graduate Nursing Program Requirements*

Required time frames for applications
February 1 for Summer and Fall entry
September 1 for Spring entry

Complete the Graduate Nursing Program Application form that addresses the following requirements: www.fhsu.edu/nursing

1. Complete a baccalaureate degree with an upper division major in nursing from a program accredited by a nationally recognized nursing accrediting authority (CCNE or NLNAC).

2. Demonstrate a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for the baccalaureate nursing degree.

3. Hold current RN license to practice professional nursing in the United States.

4. Complete a course in health assessment (3 credit hour) or its equivalent with a grade of "C" or better.

5. Demonstrate aptitude and attitude for advanced professional nursing studies.

Additional Admission Requirements for Family Nurse Practitioner Track:

6. One year of clinical experience as a practicing registered nurse prior to clinical courses.

7. Undergraduate pathophysiology course (3 credit hours) with a grade of "C' or better.

8. Hold current valid RN license to practice professional nursing in Kansas.

***call 785-628-4327 if you have questions about part II.**

Conditional Admission

1. A student with an undergraduate GPA less than 3.0 may be conditionally admitted. The student must earn a grade of "B" or higher on the first 12 credit hours to be considered for full admission.

2. Students may be conditionally admitted during the first 12 hours of graduate coursework. Full admission requires GPA of "B." (3.0)

3. Students who have earned a BSN degree but did not graduate from a CCNE or NLNAC accredited baccalaureate program will be evaluated individually. If deficiencies are found, the student will be advised on prerequisite courses needed, and may be admitted conditionally but must earn a grade of "B" (3.0) or higher on the first 12 credit hours of graduate work.

4. If a student has other deficiencies in admission requirements, the Student Life Committee will identify the mechanism to meet conditions for admission.

International Students

Refer to the Information for International Students: MSN Program sheet for details about the admission process. If you need a copy of the information sheet please call the Graduate Nursing Program office (785-628-4327) to request one.

TRANSFER AND VALIDATION

The University has a policy on advance standing credit (see University Catalog) and transfer of graduate credit (University Catalog). Graduate students may transfer graduate credit from other universities on an individual basis, in compliance with policies in the University Catalog. Course description and syllabi are reviewed and approved for transfer by the Student Life Committee, with input from the faculty member responsible for the corresponding course on the FHSU campus.

Validation for successfully completed coursework from a Nurse Practitioner certificate program is assessed through transcription analysis, syllabi, course materials, clinical experiences, and examination. The Program

Life Committee evaluates and makes a determination about equivalency with course requirements. Eligibility for validation is determined by the Program Life Committee according to the following criteria: a) documentation of successfully completing a formal didactic and practicum program in a specialty area, and b) documentation of hours equivalent to one year of full time advanced clinical experience within the last five years.

Requests for validation of other preparation may be directed to the Chair who will process requests through the Program Life Committee. If the Program Life Committee determines that a student is eligible for validation, then: a) the student enrolls in the course and supplies documentation of how the specific course objectives were met; and, b) the instructor of record will evaluate the quality and quantity of the documentation to determine the course grade.

MATRICULATION REQUIREMENTS

Prior to enrollment and throughout clinical courses, the student must provide evidence (copies) of the following items:

1. A United States RN license in good standing.
2. Professional liability insurance coverage.
3. Personal health insurance coverage.
4. CPR certification.
5. Negative TB skin test or Chest X-ray. If positive, the student must follow protocols recommended by the Kansas State Department of Health and Environment.
6. Hepatitis Vaccination Series. If a student does not obtain the Hepatitis Vaccination he/she **must** sign a waiver form releasing Fort Hays State University from any claims or damages which may arise from the decision not to receive the Hepatitis B vaccine. A release form may be obtained by contacting the Graduate Nursing Administrative Assistant.
7. Additional health requirements for students using selected clinical agencies will be the responsibility of the student.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

The following performance standards must be met in order to progress through and complete the Master's program.

1. The student must achieve a cumulative "B" average (3.0) or above on all graduate courses taken toward the degree.
2. A grade of "C" will be accepted for only two courses in the Master's degree, and only one course can be repeated <u>one time</u> to improve the grade.
3. Audited courses or continuing education workshops are not accepted in the program for the Master's degree.
4. If, at the end of any semester, the student's cumulative GPA in all graduate courses is below 3.0, the student will be given one semester to raise his/her cumulative GPA to 3.0 or better by taking courses listed on his/her degree plan or courses approved by his/her committee. If, after that semester, the student's cumulative GPA in all graduate courses is below 3.0, the student's performance will be reviewed by the Student Life Committee for possible dismissal from the program (see University Catalog).