Overview
College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island offers a Master of Science degree with a family nurse practitioner concentration. Its purpose is to educate family nurse practitioners capable of providing primary health care to individuals and families in a variety of primary health care settings. This program is partially funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources (HRSA). Upon completion of either the master’s program or the post-masters certificate option, students will be eligible to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Credentialing Center – Family Nurse Practitioner (AANPCP - FNP) certification exam.

Curriculum
The Family Nurse Practitioner curriculum consists of courses totaling 43 semester credit hours. Of these, 14 credits are in nursing core courses consisting of philosophy and theories in nursing practice, research, leadership, and role development. In addition, 29 credits in the area of primary health care and related courses are required. The program culminates with a written comprehensive examination and the submission of a substantial scholarly work involving significant independent study which is referred to as the major paper. This requirement is an extension of work completed from prior coursework in the master's program.

Required Master’s Core Courses (14 credits)
- NUR 660 - Philosophical & Theoretical Bases of Nursing Science (4 crs)
- NUR 651 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research I (Qualitative Methods) (3 crs)
- NUR 652 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research II (Quantitative Methods) (3 crs)
- HDF 527 - Social and Health Care Policy (3 crs)
- NUR 520 - Graduate Study Seminar (1 cr)

Required Advanced Practice Courses (11 credits)
- NUR 503 - Advanced Adult Physical Assessment (4 crs)
- NUR 504 - Advanced Pediatric Physical Assessment (1 crs)
- NUR 535 - Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses (3 crs)
- NUR 582 - Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice Nursing (3 crs)

Required Family Nurse Practitioner Courses (18 credits)
- NUR 531 - Primary Health Care Nursing I (3 crs)
- NUR 532 - Practicum in Primary Health Care Nursing I (3 crs)
- NUR 533 - Primary Health Care Nursing II (3 crs)
- NUR 534 - Practicum in Primary Health Care Nursing II (6 crs)
- NUR 590 - Directed Advanced Study & Practice (3 crs)

Clinical Practice
Clinical practice is available in a variety of settings - hospital clinics, community health centers, health maintenance organizations, and private offices in both urban and rural settings. Preceptorship on a one-to-one basis is provided by nurse practitioners. Students manage a patient caseload with increasing independence as they progress in the program. The practicum experiences are planned with the student, taking into consideration the student’s interests, learning needs, employment plans, and family nurse practitioner competencies.

Part Time and Full Time Study
Students take 1 or 2, 3 credit courses per semester for part-time and 3 courses for full-time. Students may choose to move through courses in a two-and-one-half to a five-year time frame.
**Transportation**

A car is necessary to reach the various clinical practice locations in the cities and rural areas. A local bus service connects the University to most major health service facilities, shopping, and service centers, but the bus routes and schedules may not always be convenient for the graduate student.

**Tuition and Fees**

Additional information on tuition and a full breakdown of fees can be located on the Enrollment Services Tuition and Fees webpage.

**Financial Aid**

A variety of traineeships, graduate assistantships and loans are available to help finance graduate education. More information can be found on the Graduate School Financial Support webpage. If you are interested in requesting an assistantship please email gradnursing@etal.uri.edu after you have submitted your application.

**Certificate Option**

Nurses who have a master’s degree in nursing may pursue advanced preparation in primary health care. A minimum of 18 credits (NUR 531, 532, 533, 534, and 590) and 500 clinical hours are required. Prerequisite courses for the certificate program include NUR 503, 504, 535, and 582. Comparable courses from other institutions may satisfy these requirements.

**Application Deadlines**

Your completed application package, including supporting materials, is due by February 15th for Fall start and October 15th for Spring start. Applications missing materials such as test scores, transcripts, resumes, or personal statements will not be reviewed. We recommend submitting your online application by no later than two weeks prior to the deadline which gives your references two weeks to complete their recommendations.

**Masters Admission Requirements**

- Admission to the Graduate School. Directions can be found on the College of Nursing - How to Apply webpage.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Baccalaureate degree in nursing accredited by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing or the National League for Nursing with an upper-division major in nursing.
- Eligibility for RN licensure in Rhode Island
- Positive recommendations
- Statement of purpose which reflects writing ability and goals for pursuing advanced study in nursing
- Two years of clinical nursing experience, relevant to the concentration applied for, prior to enrollment in the advanced practice clinical courses.
- A basic statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR 652.

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The mission of the URI College of Nursing can be found at [www.uri.edu/nursing/about/](http://www.uri.edu/nursing/about/)

To view the University catalog please go to: [www.uri.edu/catalog/](http://www.uri.edu/catalog/)

To apply please go to: [www.uri.edu/gsadmis/](http://www.uri.edu/gsadmis/) and click “Apply Online Now!”

**Program Contact Information**

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**Mailing Information**

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